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Tuesday, December 17, 2013



Brighten the season

McKecks pitches in to make Christmas special

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Christmas wishes

Six-year-old Shalynn Brown of Wilberforce tells Santa Claus what she wants for Christmas at the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre in Wilberforce following the Santa Claus Parade on Sunday, Dec. 15. More on page 12. Darren Lum Staff

Haliburton cook next MasterChef?

Jenn Watt
Editor

There's excitement and pride, but also a sense of purpose behind Vicky Rodden's entry into MasterChef Canada premiering on CTV this January.

The lifelong cook auditioned for the competition motivated by her late brother-in-law, Michael Rodden, who had always encouraged her to go further with her passion.

"[Last year] I lost my brother-in-law and I used to cook a lot for him, and we used to have these long conversations over a wonderful meal. He used to tell me, 'you should have your own cooking show,'" says Vicky.

"I used to laugh it off. After he passed away, it's almost like his spirit was pulling me toward MasterChef Canada and I could feel him there," she says.

Rodden is probably best known around Haliburton as the cheerful face behind the counter at the

Dysart branch of the library.

She also hosts a radio show on Canoe FM and recently launched a poetry magazine.

Originally from Toronto, Vicky and her husband Mark Rodden moved to Haliburton following her brother-in-law Michael.

The couple came to the Highlands and fell in love with the landscape and the people.

Since being selected for the cooking competition,

see AUDITION page 5

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Survey finds support for community pool

Jenn Watt
Editor

A survey conducted on behalf of the County Swimming Pool Initiative has found strong support for a pool and recreation centre, with most respondents indicating a Haliburton location would be best.

According to a press release by the committee, a market feasibility study was done in November including responses from a telephone survey of 885 randomly chosen county residents.

Seventy-nine per cent of respondents said "they would be very or somewhat likely to participate in recreational swimming and 77 per cent said they would be very or somewhat likely to use an indoor track for walking or running," the release says.

The pool group predicts from the results that more than 1,600 memberships would be sold at a Haliburton facility and less than 900 at a Minden one.

"The consultant was very conservative in his estimation on the number of users, and that's a good thing as it helps keep ourselves anchored in reality, but the role that this type of facility would play in the future development of our community should not be ignored. We can't just keep talking about how poor Haliburton County is and not come forward with a vision of how we change that. We need change, and with change comes risk, but we have to embrace the challenges to move forward," said pool initiative spokesman Harvey Bates.

While the survey chose random residents, there was a proportionally representative sample from each of the county's four municipalities and results were also broken down into two age categories – 20 to 64 and 65 to 75.

"The results also indicated that a membership fee of \$45 per month per adult was acceptable to most potential users," the release says.

That membership fee was proposed specifically in the question to respondents.

"The response for a 'very likely' to purchase a \$45 monthly membership at a location in Haliburton among the 20-64 age group was 45.8 per cent among the people surveyed from Dysart et al, 30.1 per cent among the people surveyed from Highlands East, 18.5 per cent among the people surveyed from Algonquin Highlands, 15.7 per cent among the people surveyed

from Minden Hills, and 12 per cent among the countywide age 65-75 group. Or, considering it just on a countywide basis for both age groups, the response was 27.9 per cent in the age 20-64 group and 12 per cent in the age 65-75 group," pool committee secretary Joe Bringmann wrote in an email to the paper.

With this information, the pool group will create a facility proposal by the end of January.

"The next steps are to get costs for operating our proposed

facility using the latest technology, not the purchase of, but the ongoing operation and maintenance costs, as the build and operation are two different budgets," said Bates.

"Eventually we will make a delegation to county council and we are looking first to bring them up to speed on the survey itself and our recommendations. Ideally, we would like agreement in principle with their support, to proceed with the next stages," he said.



Moose FM raises funds for food banks

Rick Lowes and Sue Black chat into the afternoon hours on Dec. 12 as part of a two-day radiothon raising money for Haliburton's four food banks. The hosts along with the staff work extra to take donations from the public during the special annual event on Moose FM 93.5 in Haliburton. Moose FM raised more than \$18,000 by the end of the radiothon.

Jenn Watt Staff

New chairwoman for board of trustees

Trillium Lakelands District School Board chose a new chair-

woman and vice-chairman for its board of trustees at its meeting Dec. 10.

Louise Clodd was acclaimed as the chairwoman and Tony Armstrong was acclaimed vice-chairman for 2014.

Outgoing chairwoman Karen Round, who is best known for her media interviews during last year's labour dispute, will assume the role of past-chairwoman.

Correction

The Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary was incorrectly credited with raising \$25,000 of the \$40,000 for the automated dispensing units (ADU). That money was raised by the Minden Auxiliary for the Minden site. The Haliburton auxiliary had raised \$62,250 since April 1 and not Aug. 1. Haliburton has a total commitment to the hospital for \$86,000 for the fiscal year, including \$35,000 for an ADU at Haliburton.

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Haliburton County Echo News

Tuesday, December 17, 2013


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McKecks offering community Christmas dinner

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

It may be the start of a new Christmas tradition.

On Dec. 25 downtown restaurant McKecks will be serving a hot, turkey dinner at no charge.

Happening from 2 to 4 p.m., the meal is meant to serve those who may be in need of a nutritious supper or looking for company during the holidays.

The idea for the dinner came from restaurant staff and patrons, said general manager Karen Frybort.

"It's a collective idea," said Frybort. "It was between our chef, Aaron Walker, our owner and a patron, who offered to anonymously donate some funds to purchase turkeys."

A first for McKecks, the Christmas meal is similar to outreach events hosted in the past by Lakeside Baptist Church, said Frybort.

"We all kind of said it's time to start a new tradition ... possibly because many of us are in a new stage of life, our children are now having children, we want them to establish their own tradition with their family and not have to travel on Christmas day," said the manager.

A recent grandmother, Frybort recognizes the importance of family and spending time with loved ones. She hopes this event emulates the feeling of spending Christmas with relatives and those who matter most.

"All are welcome who would otherwise not have a hot meal or the company of others on that day," said Frybort.

The event will not include alcohol, as McKecks is not operating on Dec. 25.

Staff chose the afternoon as a suitable time for dinner so that the morning could be spent enjoying the holidays at home.

Walker is largely responsible for facilitating the event and is planning on including his entire family.

"It also teaches it's about more than gifts," said Frybort.

It is too early to know if the Christmas dinner will become an annual event, as the momentum for it this year is largely attributed to staff, said Frybort.

"Really I have no credit due, I'm getting carried along in the current," she said. "I know there's a blessing in it and I'm going to get shown by the good people I work with. I often get cred-



Angelica Blenich Staff

Staff at Haliburton restaurant McKecks are extending an invitation to their first Christmas Day Dinner on Dec. 25 from 2 to 4 p.m. The event is offering a free, nutritious dinner for those looking for company and hospitality. From left, Katlyn Hollands, chef Aaron Walker, Walt McKechnie, Karen Frybort and Thalia Nash (front).

ited with a lot of good things but it is not just me, it's an entire group here that has that sentiment."

Apart from food the event will offer warm hospitality and

company. Those interested in participating are encouraged to RSVP but it is not necessary.

To RSVP call McKecks at 705-457-3443.

Highland East protests post office cutbacks

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Highlands East council will be sending correspondence to Canada Post protesting a service reduction scheduled for the Wilberforce post office.

Councillors discussed the changes, set to come into effect Jan. 6, at their Dec. 10 meeting.

According to Councillor Joan Barton, the township will be losing eight hours of service in Wilberforce - "which is essentially a full work day" - and will be losing all Saturday service.

It was Barton's motion that the township express strenuous objection to the reduction and request that it be nixed.

Councillor Steve Kauffeldt said he'd been reading about the \$1 billion shortfall Canada Post is facing and didn't think there was much council could do about it.

"Canada Post is between a rock and a hard place, here," Kauffeldt said. "I don't know what we can do. Canada Post is going to do what it's going to do."

The councillor thought it was inevitable that the post offices in the area, including those in Cardiff and Irondale, would eventually be closed and that it was more reasonable to be looking at one, centralized post office for the municipality.

"I think we have an obligation to object," Barton said. "The post office is going to be restructured. I don't think it's all going to shut down tomorrow."

Her motion pointed to the importance of the post office for

local businesses, as well as year-round and seasonal residents alike.

Barton said she'd support a similar motion regarding the Cardiff post office once planned changes there became clear.

"I have no problem supporting it," Kauffeldt said, reiterating he wasn't sure it would make any difference.

"It's going to get dark tonight ... there's nothing I can do about it," said Councillor Cec Ryall, adding the post offices were important lifelines in an area that many people consider "the middle of nowhere."

Ryall also suggested trying to set up a meeting between Canada Post and either council or township staff.

The shortfall Canada Post is facing is related to pension commitments.

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Superintendent pleased with safety survey results

Jenn Watt
Editor

You're at work and you overhear a co-worker belittling another. What do you do?

Do you step in? Keep it to yourself? Consider repercussions?

It's much the same for students who witness bullying, says safe and accepting schools superintendent Kevin Cutler.

Students want to step in and help their peers, but sometimes it's hard to do.

A recent survey done every two years by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board called a "climate survey" measures how students, staff and parents feel about how safe, equitable and inclusive schools are.

When it comes to bullying, results show that many kids aren't sure exactly how to handle being a witness.

"It's a way more complex issue than people realize," said Cutler, "It's not as simple as jumping in and doing something."

According to the survey of more than 4,500 people, 3,500 of whom were students, "secondary students appear to have some concerns about how often adults or peers intervene in bullying situations," a presentation on the results reads.

In a question that allowed respondents to choose several answers, 59.5 per cent said people don't stop bullying because they aren't sure if they're really seeing bullying.

Sixty per cent said students fear being harmed if they step in and 66 per cent said students fear the situation could get worse if they intervene.

That information helps the board gear programming and outreach to specific concerns.

In the case of bullying, Cutler says the board will be doing more education with kids about how to address cases they witness.

"To expect kids to jump into situations without any support is very difficult for them," he said.

"What our data tells us is students would like to do something about it."

Other pieces of the climate survey included how safe students felt, what stressors they regularly encountered and whether school events were affordable and inclusive.

About 10 per cent of respondents said clubs were cost-prohibitive for them and 17 per cent said the same of school trips.

Cutler said extra-curriculars will always come with a price tag, but there are usually ways teachers and administration

staff can help students and families without the means to pay.

"I don't know of a school that doesn't have some kind of opportunity for students who can't raise the funds," he said.

In regular school expenses, such as paying for a bus ride on a field trip, it comes down to the student or family to contact the school to find financial relief.

Some larger grant programs exist, but they are usually attached to bigger expenses such as summer camp, he said.

"A lot of times it's a matter of us finding out who may need some help in those areas [of finance]," he said.

Overall, Cutler said the board has become safer and more inclusive over time.

"I don't see any area where we're not making growth or progress," he said.

In the last five years, the number of suspensions and expulsions has dropped.

"I really believe we're on the right track with what we're doing."

Other climate survey findings

Elementary school students feel safer than their secondary school counterparts. The majority of elementary students "always feel safe" and "always or often feel like others are accepted" in school, while the majority of secondary students "often or always feel safe" and "often or sometimes feel like others are accepted."

Cutler said this could be because in elementary school there is more teacher supervision, so students feel like they are watched over more – increasing their feeling of security.

Places such as change rooms, washrooms and buses were where students felt least safe.

Cutler said those places have the least amount of teacher supervision and survey results remind educational staff to keep those areas in mind when they do their rounds of the school.

Bullying (58%), stress (49%) and peer pressure (40%) were the top three concerns of all respondents in the survey from a list of 20 potential concerns. Respondents could choose as many responses as they wished. At the bottom of the list were sexually transmitted diseases (14%), indoor physical environment (15%) and discrimination (15%).

Asked to choose the best things about their schools, respondents chose friends (55%), sports (46%) and staff/teachers (46%).

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Audition came from personal place for TV contestant

from page 1

Rodden says the community has continued its support.

"My email box has been filled to capacity three times this week. Isn't that wonderful?" she says.

She's had to keep the process a secret, sharing her triumphs with Mark in a quiet way.

It hasn't always been easy.

"That was so difficult [keeping a secret] because I want to scream it out from the rooftops," she says.

"The first day that I found out every few minutes I would hug Mark, my husband, and tell him, 'I've been picked, I've been picked.' I just couldn't believe it. I'm on a high. That's the only way to describe it."

Vicky has been cooking since she was a young child. Growing up in a Greek family with many siblings, she always had opportunities to experiment with food.

Meals were a central part of social life and when the Roddens moved to Haliburton, that tradition stayed with them.

The audition experience and subsequent filming of the program, which starts on Jan. 20, excites Rodden, who bubbles over with enthusiasm for CTV, the show, the process and the judges.

"The judges are drop-dead good-looking. I was so nervous in front of them - these three wonderfully good-looking judges," she says.

Alvin Leung, Claudio Aprile and Michael Bonacini are the contest's judges, who will cull the crowd of 50 finalists from across Canada for a top prize of \$100,000.

The program challenges home cooks to whip up delightful meals under tight time constraints and the pressure of being on TV.

It's nerve-wracking, Rodden says, but the cameras invigorate, rather than intimidate, her.

When she lived in Toronto, she took acting classes at the School of Drama and has done some stage work over the years.

"It's competitive and at the same time it's fun; but it's also a lot of hard work," she says.

To be selected, Rodden had to submit a video to CTV. Those who got through the first round were asked to come to Toronto and show off their cooking skills.

After that first meeting, she was asked back for a formal audition, where she cooked a dish special to her family and to her late brother-in-law.

It was a zipper-back shrimp cooked in dry white wine, with oregano, lemon and olive oil with feta cheese alongside homemade bread.

"I was a bit nervous, but I had confidence in my recipe and I had confidence in myself," she says.

That confidence has been building over the last year, since Michael passed away from corticobasal ganglionic degeneration, a con-

dition much like Parkinson's disease.

He had always encouraged her to pursue her cooking, and his death spurred her on to do the things she had been avoiding.

"Until my brother-in-law passed away, I would not go out of my comfort zone. I'm a good cook, but I almost kept it a secret. I was worried about being judged," she says.

"When [death] happens to a person like my brother-in-law, who was bigger than life, I realized I can't put things off anymore. Everything I want to do I have to do now," she says.

She launched the poetry magazine alongside her husband Mark, starting singing and posting videos to YouTube and is writing a book.

"There was a sense of urgency for me to do the things I want to do before I go and not have any regrets. With my husband supporting me in this and saying, 'go ahead, you can do this,' I've been doing the things I've never done before," she says.

At the end of Michael's life, the comfort of food took on a deeper meaning.

Since his condition left him without the ability to speak, Vicky communicated with home-cooked meals, which she brought in to him at Extendicare.

"I remember being by his bedside and playing his favourite music and talking about his favourite meals," she says.

"When I would feed him, you could hear: 'Mmm,' like 'this is good.' This signature dish [of zipper-back shrimp] I did was one of his favourite meals," she says.

CTV bills the \$100,000 prize for Canada's MasterChef as the money needed for the cooks to "help make their culinary dreams come true."

Vicky Rodden is dreaming big.

"I would love to be the female Gordon Ramsay," she laughs, quickly adding "without the swearing ... and a little more understanding."

The premiere episode is Monday, Jan. 20 at 8 p.m. on CTV and CTV GO. You can see more online at www.ctv.ca/MasterChefCanada.

Haliburton's Vicky Rodden cooks on the set of CTV's MasterChef Canada. She was one of 50 home cooks chosen for the competitive reality TV show premiering on Jan. 20, 2014.

Photo by Mark O'Neill/
Provided by CTV



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Better retirement

CANADIANS AREN'T GREAT savers. A BMO study released this summer showed that Baby Boomers are far behind their savings goals. "The study has revealed that Boomers are currently, on average, more than \$400,000 short of their individual retirement savings goal," a BMO press release reads.

It's not much better for the rest of us.

We tend to wait for a future when we will make more money, or put our money in accounts that won't pay off in the long-term.

Stats Canada released information last January that showed most of us save only four per cent of our disposable income.

On Monday, finance ministers from across the country met to discuss expanding the Canadian Pension Plan and CARP, the organization for retired people, was at the forefront of lobbying for more.

The Haliburton CARP chapter president Bob Stinson says today's retirees are finding their savings aren't as abundant as expected.

CARP's spokeswoman Susan Eng has been fighting an uphill battle to expand CPP.

Right now, CPP pays out about \$7,000 a year for most people. The highest amount you could get is \$12,000 a year if you made more than \$51,000 annually.

It's been argued that alongside Old Age Security and other savings such as RRSPs, low-income retirees should be able to maintain their standard of living.

Eng takes exception to that argument, pointing out that those who spent their lives as the working poor will continue to be poor into retirement and that those who made a middle class living won't make enough to be comfortable without selling their homes and working part time.

Part of the problem is that CPP is designed to be one part of a retirement plan, however, for many it is the largest part of the plan.

According to Eng, two thirds of Canadians do not have workplace pensions.

To remedy the situation, CARP wants CPP to be increased by three per cent

– 1.5 per cent paid by the employee, 1.5 per cent by the employer.

In most cases, especially amongst middle-income workers, the increase would hardly be felt and the payoff in retirement would be a welcome supplement.

We should heed the advice given us by CARP and other retirees who have made it through their working years and know what it takes to retire comfortably.

Another holiday donation

Last week we profiled a few of the many charitable organizations looking for your generosity this Christmas. The list was not meant to be exhaustive; it was a taste of the many worthy causes here in the Highlands. The Volunteer Dental Outreach, land trust, wildlife sanctuary, firefighters' associations, arts organizations and many more would also greatly benefit from any money donated. Please visit haliburtonecho.ca for a more complete list.



Jenn Watt
Editor



Snowy path

photo by Darren Lum

Christmas message

WE ARE ALL SO fortunate to live in a wonderful community of such friendly and caring residents.

Our downtown is very likely at its most beautiful ever. Starting with the BIA's initiative a few years back to encourage a common look and colour scheme in the village, and culminating with our municipality's streetscape initiative over the last two years, the main street area has never looked better.

We have an incredible volunteer decorating committee who did an amazing job with the seasonal decorations. Thank you to Debra Dart and her team.

Huge credit also goes to the writer of this column, our administrator, Gail Stelter, who has worked tirelessly, (maybe sometimes a little tired), far above and beyond the call of duty to make this year's BIA's accomplishments and events very successful. On behalf of the BIA committee, thank you. I also wish to personally congratulate the BIA executive committee of nine dedicated volunteers. You have made a huge difference in the prosperity of our small community. In these trying economic times, your work is more important than ever.

Your integrity and dedication to the well-being of Haliburton is commendable. Thank you for the wonderful sense of humour you all bring to our meetings – it makes them such a pleasure to attend. All

we're missing is the beer!

To all the residents, full and part-time, of our fine community, on behalf of the Haliburton Business Improvement Area executive committee, Merry Christmas and all the best for 2014!

Luke Schell
Haliburton BIA chairman



Gail Stelter
BIA in the Village

Love organizing and planning community events. Love writing this column. Love meeting, working with and having fun with the BIA members. Thank you to the BIA for this awesome opportunity. Who'd have thought being retired could be so rewarding! Having fun and keeping busy is really the best kind of retirement possible. It's all

about contributing and feeling like you are making a difference in your world, whether that world is a classroom, the principal's office, radio station, or Haliburton Village! I have changed the venue a few times, but not my enthusiasm for making a difference and my enthusiasm for people.

It's always all about the people! And so, I am sending to all of you my Christmas wish for wonderful people-time with friends and family. Laugh a lot, ease the burden of others if you can, don't sweat the small stuff and always take time to relax and enjoy the people that mean the most to you. Merry Christmas!

Gail Stelter
Haliburton Village BIA administrator



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Submit your letter to the editor by e-mail: jenn.watt@sunmedia.ca, or mail to or drop by the office at: 146 Highland St., P.O. Box 360, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0, or by faxing to: 705-457-3275. Letters must include name and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity and must not exceed 400 words.

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points of view

An outdoorsman's guide to laundry

THE OTHER DAY Jenn called me upstairs to where she was folding the laundry and then gently tossed one of her frilly socks at me. Luckily, it was not on her foot at the time.

"Notice anything?" she asked.
"You have small feet?" I guessed.
"Look closer," she suggested.



Steve Galea
Loon Tales

I did and quickly noticed that one of my favourite micro-sized perch ice fishing lures was attached to the toe.

"Well?" she said.
"Don't worry," I said, "I don't think your sock damaged the lure."

I'm not very good at reading women but, judging by Jenn's silent demeanour for the next several days, I figure she was quite relieved that things hadn't turned out for the worse.

Even so, that simple incident made me think that many outdoorsmen don't

know the first thing about laundry.

For instance, I know several hunters who think it is wrong to launder their hunting clothing at all. You might know them too, if you've ever got on the downwind side of them.

That's completely wrong, by the way, and one of those misguided acts of machismo that should have gone the way of the dinosaur. These days, everyone knows that the no laundering rule only applies to old fishing vests and any hat used in the outdoors.

The fact of the matter is it is a good thing to wash hunting jackets, socks and pants because, often, there will be other things in the pockets, like cartridges, pen knives, hatchets and old beef jerky, that could use a good clean up or two before being used again.

Of course, this is not to say that you shouldn't try to empty your pockets whenever you place your clothes in the laundry hamper. Otherwise, you can incite high-pitched screams when someone else starts folding those clothes and discovers a few power grubs in realistic colours.

Who knows why?

One or two incidents like this are all that's required to make them a little nervous about reaching into the pocket of a hunting coat and remove what is inside. That's why the hunter should make every effort to be helpful, perhaps by running to the laundry room right after the high-pitched scream to catch the person as he or she faints.

If you don't make that sort of effort, you'll create discord within the relationship. Worse still, you might have to come clean when your better half finds ammunition for a rifle that you claim not to own in the dryer.

That's why I'm so grateful Jenn never over-reacted when she found that ice fishing lure. A lot of women might have got real upset or, worse still, put it in their own tackle box. Not Jenn - no, she just handed it to me and we have not spoke about it ever since.

Come to think, we haven't spoke much at all since that occasion.

Needless to say, this sort of consideration is a two-way street. For instance, I only griped a few times about how her silk blouse dulled the hook on that lure to the point where I might need to re-sharpen it.

The sad part is a lot of people aren't as in sync as Jenn and I are.

I once knew a guy who forgot to remove a squirrel he had just shot from the hunting coat his wife was in the process of laundering. Needless to say, this caused quite a bit of commotion, especially after the spin cycle, and, in the end, the outcome was tragic. That's right; she showed him how to do his own laundry.



pic of the past

This photo of Lucy Lee was taken around 1900. She is dressed in the day's hottest fashion. Lucy Lee married George Lee, moved to Tory Hill in 1914 where they were farmers. Picture taken in Lindsay area. Lucy and George had six children. Two grandsons and one niece still live in the county. Submitted by Grant McCrea.

letters to the editor

Christmas in Carnarvon

Christmas season is a funny time
It's hard to find words that will make a rhyme
For Santa flies away up in the sky
I didn't realize he could fly so high.

Oh, that was when he tried that drug
And then he couldn't hide it under the rug
For the elves found out he'd tried using crack
And now he could lose his job over that!

And he'd even had a drink or two
And you all know what that will do
Why he'd drove the reindeer when he'd been drinking

Just did it automatically without even thinking

And his bushy beard and locks are missing
And what about those gals he's kissing?
And all those extra pounds he's found
I'll be surprised if he gets off the ground

So come on, Santa, clean up your act
For we all know it is a fact
On Christmas morn kids will be looking for toys
And you can't disappoint all those girls and boys!

Ev Stata
Haliburton

BOONEVILLE



Asset plan identifies spending priorities

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

An asset management plan for Highlands East township is identifying five top spending priorities for the municipality.

Tyler Peters from Greenview Environmental visited councillors at their Dec. 10 meeting to discuss the plan, which the province requires be completed by the end of the year.

Upgrades to Outram Road worth \$30,000, \$123,000 worth of work on Tall Pines bridge,

upgrades to the Wilberforce fire hall at \$250,000, a new case loader for \$130,000 and a new one-tonne truck at \$85,000 were identified as priorities.

With the exception of the truck, the replacement year for which is 2014, projected replacement or upgrade years for the other projects ranged between 2000 and 2011.

"Based on the rural nature of the municipality, and since approximately 65 per cent of its ratepayers are seasonal residents, the Municipality of Highlands East, like many other municipalities in the region, faces certain chal-

lenges related to asset management and provision of services in next 10 years and beyond," the report's executive summary reads.

These challenges include the maintenance of roads in a rural area with a low population density, aging bridges and culverts and the maintenance of the Cardiff water and wastewater system.

"While I'm sure it's appreciated by the residents there... it's quite costly," Peters said.

Other hurdles identified in the plan include the "significant quantities of aging buildings and facilities, the maintenance of the town-

ship's large vehicle fleet and the development of its trail network."

Councillor Cec Ryall wondered how often the township should be monitoring its progress on the plan.

Peters's recommendation was an annual review.

"We have the cost of doing something, but also have the cost of not doing something," Ryall said, emphasizing the importance of following and regularly reviewing adherence to the plan. "I think it's something we really need to be looking at."



Reason to smile

On a snowy day there was reason to smile at the RBC Dominion Securities office in Haliburton. Beth O'Connor was pleased to present a cheque from the RBC Dominion Foundation to Community Living Haliburton County for \$1,100. On hand to receive the donation was James Meldrum, Robin Fletcher, Carol Lefebvre and Teresa Jordan. Community Living Haliburton County supports individuals to achieve goals and make the most of opportunities in the community. Funds donated are used exclusively to augment opportunities or equipment needed for the individuals supported. This donation comes just in time to help create an innovative and welcoming space in the Victoria Street School building. /Photo submitted by Tim Tofflemire



Century 21 donates to 4Cs food bank

Realtors at the Century 21 Haliburton location present a \$500 donation to David Ogilvie, vice-chairman of the 4Cs food bank on Dec. 4. The funds were raised through contributions by the Century 21 staff, said owner Andrew Hodgson. From left, Anne Moulton, administrator, Gary Moffatt, realtor, Anne Hodgson, realtor, Mark Dennys, realtor, David Ogilvie, Greg Stamp, realtor, Karen Nimigon, realtor, Andrew Hodgson.

Angelica Blenich Staff

Wildlife in your backyard

Have a great nature shot? Send it to jenn.watt@sunmedia.ca. The bigger the file size the bigger we can print it.

Richard and Raquel Linton spotted this blue heron in their backyard in Irondale on Dec. 6.



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Scot Denton, Artistic Producer

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what's on
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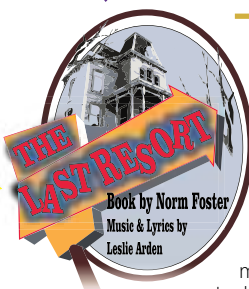


Great Expectations

Back
IN
59

Conceived by Thom Currie

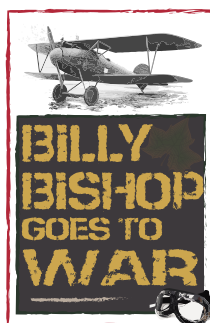
It's the Summer of 1973 and four old friends have snuck away from their 10th high school reunion and broken into their old hangout. As they contemplate their lives and the future, the four look back upon their high school years and remember the music of their youth. What follows is a rollicking non-stop journey through over seventy top-ten hits from 1959 through 1963. A wonderful celebration of the biggest top-ten hits of the late fifties and early sixties.



Book by Norm Foster
Music & Lyrics by
Leslie Arden

Adapted by Robert Johanson from the novel by Charles Dickens:

A story of pride and ambition blinding a soul to the true values of life, Great Expectations follows the life of the orphan, Pip. We first meet him as a tiny, terrified child in a village churchyard. Years later, through the help of an anonymous benefactor, Pip will travel to London, full of expectations to become a gentleman. One of the greatest works of classic literature, a timeless tale of love, hope and humanity from perhaps one of the greatest novelists of all time.



Written and composed by John Gray in collaboration with Eric Peterson. Since its first staging in 1978, Billy Bishop Goes to War has become one of the most popular and oft-produced theatrical works in Canada's history. Anchored by its haunted hero and his clear-eyed memories of war's tragedies and black comedies, this award-winning musical creation is given extra resonance by songs that are sometimes raucous, sometimes mournful, but always steeped in the realities of wartime. Experience Billy Bishop and connect body and soul with a formative part of Canada's history as the world marks the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War.

"The Last Resort" is an off-the-wall, madcap, murder mystery musical comedy with book by Norm Foster and music and lyrics by Leslie Arden. A group of apparent strangers are staying the night in Saskatchewan's Last Resort, a hotel in the middle of nowhere that will serve as the perfect hideout for mob informant Nick Galeazzo. On the run with FBI agent Angela Miller, Nick is paranoid and assumes that every other guest in the hotel is out to kill him.

Andrew Rally seems to have it all: celebrity and acclaim from his starring role in a hit television series; a rich, beautiful girlfriend; a glamorous, devoted agent; the perfect New York apartment; and the chance to play Hamlet in Central Park. There are, however, a couple of glitches in paradise. Andrew's series has been cancelled; his girlfriend is clinging to her virginity with unyielding conviction; and he has no desire to play Hamlet. When Andrew's agent visits him, she reminisces about her brief romance with John Barrymore many years ago, in Andrew's apartment. This prompts a chance to summon Barrymore's ghost. The laughs are nonstop as Andrew wrestles with his conscience, Barrymore, his sword, and his opening night as Hamlet in Central Park.



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10th anniversary of The Nutcracker features all-star cast

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

It's an anniversary worth celebrating and the entire community is invited to the party.

In 2004 Heritage Ballet presented the first Haliburton production of *The Nutcracker* and on Dec. 21 and 22 the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion will once again be alive with soldiers and sugar plum fairies.

The 10th anniversary of the local production of the famous Tchaikovsky ballet is a testament to the dedication and hard work of Julie Barban, owner and operator of Heritage Ballet.

It was Barban's vision that first brought Marie and the snowflakes to the Haliburton stage.

"It was something I always wanted to do," she said. "Rachel Regina encouraged me to do it and said she would help me."

While every year Barban finds herself questioning why she continues to put on a production that requires so much work, she has no regrets.

"Every year I'm exhausted, but then I hear the music ... I just love it."

Barban never imagined she would be here, celebrating 10 years of *The Nutcracker*, but as long as she's living in Haliburton, the show will continue, she says.

In honour of the anniversary, Barban has invited past dancers to be part of this year's show.

Seven former Heritage Ballet students will be dusting off their ballet slippers, including Loretta Kerr, Kestrel Woodley, Tamara Poropat, Jessica Bishop, Jessica Mooney, Jordyn Brown and Nicole Mazara.

Involved since the first year of the production, Woodley has been dancing with Heritage Ballet since she was in Grade 2.

Now in her second year of studies at McMaster University, Woodley is excited to be getting back on stage, appearing as a snowflake.



Snowflakes will be at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion this coming weekend for the 10th anniversary of *The Nutcracker* in Haliburton. This year's production will include local celebrities making cameo appearances and former students returning to the stage. /File photo

"I love it so much," she said, especially the snowflake scene. "It's so white and sparkly."

Woodley has been preparing herself for the show, playing the music and practicing the steps in her head while at school.

For Poropat the snowflake dance is like coming full-circle for herself and her fellow former students.

"When we were younger we used to all be in the snowflake scene," she said. "We were the little snowflakes and then we were in the more senior roles and now we're back to being snowflakes. It'll be nice to dance with everybody."

A dancer for the past 15 years, Poropat is in her fourth year of university, also studying at McMaster.

Kerr is in her first year of studies at McMaster, which means the dancers have had the opportunity to practice with each other, which they have been doing since the summer.

Dancing with Barban since she was five, Kerr filled the role of Marie for the inaugural production and her final performance two years ago.

Extremely excited to be back, Kerr doesn't mind that the role will be smaller than ones she's danced in the past.

"It's nice just to be featured," she said. "I didn't realize how much I missed it until we started rehearsing for this show and being back in the studio with Julie brought back a lot of emotion."

This year the production will be spiced up with the addition of three local celebrities filling the role of Mother Ginger.

Radio personalities Mike Jaycock and Rick Lowes, along with *Haliburton Echo* and *Minden Times* columnist Steve Galea, will all have a chance to wear the big hoop skirt filled with children.

When asked to be a part of this year's production not one hesitated at the opportunity.

"This is my first foray into anything that has such high culture attached to it," said Jaycock.

"When they asked me [to be a part of it] I thought it was a joke," said Galea. "It was very easy to say yes."

Filling the role at Sunday's show, Jaycock believes this may be a one-time performance.

"It sounds like a fun albeit small role to play," said Jaycock. "The reason I said I would do it is because I think supporting Julie and David [Mills] and all the youngsters is a nice thing to do."

It will also provide the audience with some laughs, he said.

"Come and see the largest tutu in existence," joked Jaycock.

The experience is something Galea is eyeing with purpose and passion, as it will be his first time wearing such an elaborate costume, which includes a ladder.

"I feel like they should be rolling me by shelves so I can actually get the sensation of taking things from top shelves," he said. "I would hope they just allow me to keep the whole costume."

Preparing for the Saturday night performance, the writer has not yet found the rehearsals to be too grueling, spending most of his time getting adjusted to the height of the costume.

"Rick and I gave each other some advice on wearing a hoop skirt," he said. "What other skirt can you fit eight kids under?"

To free the children Galea must lift up his skirt, a move he believes will spark a long future in the ballet.

"I think once people ... have a good look at my legs I think it might just happen," he said.

Lowes first felt fearful when asked to be in the production.

"When I got home and told my wife I was like I can't believe I said I'd do it," he said.

The rehearsal process has been a whole lot of fun for Lowes, as he has been impressed by what goes into putting *The Nutcracker* on stage.

"It's amazing how much effort [is put in] and attention to detail ... there's over 80 people involved in this production."

Lowes believes after the performance he will be hanging up his slippers.

"I want to go out on top," he said.

The show will be performed at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 21 and 2 p.m. on Dec. 22.

Tickets to *The Nutcracker* are \$15 and available at Cranberry Cottage in Haliburton and Pharmasave in Minden.

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Christmas is the hardest part

Maryanne Firth
QMI Agency

The holidays were once prominent in the Hughes household.

Each year, the family would get bundled up and go cut down a Christmas tree. They would make memories and share laughs as they hung the lights and ornaments.

But today, the decorations are absent.

It seems holiday cheer cannot fill the hole that was left behind when 19-year-old Jake Hughes was killed in an ATV crash north of Haliburton in August 2012.

Each day has since been a struggle for parents Sam and Pearl, and siblings Adam and Leah.

It has outright "destroyed" the family, Pearl says through tear-filled eyes.

The impact of Jake's death has spread well beyond his household, touching the lives of friends, family and complete strangers who were heartbroken to learn such a bright light had been extinguished.

It has taken a significant toll on Richard Robins, Jake's grandfather, who wants to ensure the teen's big heart and compassionate nature are forever remembered.

"I want people to know the type of person Jake was," he says. "How he went out of his way to help people."

He was an athlete. A Buffalo Bills fan. A loving friend.

In the year-and-a-half since Jake's passing, the Hughes family has been flooded with memories people have shared of the popular green-eyed boy.

Robins calls it "unbelievable" that posts continue to come in regularly on Jake's memorial Facebook page.

"He was quite the guy at school. It's amazing to hear stories from his friends," he says.

Many of those stories were told during Jake's packed funeral at Pleasantview Memorial Gardens and Visitation Centre, where a lineup of thousands went out the door.

"It's hard to know what to say back," Robins says, shuffling a stack of papers filled with kind words about his grandson. "The things that have been said to us about him. It's tremendous."

But it seems those heartfelt memories of the teen dubbed the "Most Genuine Guy" have made it that much harder to understand why he was taken away so soon, Robins says.

"This has been such a big shock to the family."

Jake's death has meant countless days filled with tears and a struggle to resume life as it was.

"Christmas is the hardest part," Robins admits, "because it was always Jake, Adam and

Leah opening their Christmas gifts."

"Christmas was big when Jake was still with us, but now, there are no Christmas decorations. Everything has changed," he says.

"It has been a real tear in our family. It's an awful hard thing, boy."

Robins was raised to be tough. He was taught to hide his feelings. But losing Jake has opened the emotional floodgates for the retiree.

"I cannot hide all my feelings," he says, as tears stream down his face.

"I just don't understand why someone so young was lost."

Despite the pain, Robins knows steps must be taken to begin moving forward.

"It's so hard, but we do need to realize that life goes on," he says, his voice cracking as the words pour out.

Robins will always cherish the memories of his grandson.

He remembers taking him to soccer practices, giving him driving lessons and sharing a laugh when they'd cut the grass together.

Jake had planned to get into policing, following proudly in his father's footsteps.

He received a scholarship to study criminology at Brock University after graduating from Notre Dame College School. He was entering his second year.

Robins remembers fondly how Jake and Sam would playfully wrestle, Jake determined to someday triumph over his policeman father.

"It was getting damn hard for Sam to take him," Robins says with a laugh that seems to warm his heart.

Jake did have one weakness - his nanny's chocolate-chip cookies.

"He couldn't resist them," Robins says. Jake would come home from school, pop two in the microwave for a few seconds and then head upstairs with a glass of milk to do his homework.

It's a memory Robins and wife Ilene hold dear.

He never wants those memories to fade. He wears a necklace etched with Jake's photo close to his heart.

"I can talk about Jake and feel a lot better after I've talked to someone about him," Robins says.

"His nanny and poppa love him."

And they're certainly not alone.

To remember Jake and honour his memory, a yearly fundraising event has been created. The second annual Jake Hughes Memorial Benefit will take place May 9 at Riverstone Event Centre. Proceeds will support Welland Special Olympics, the Jake Hughes Memorial Bursary at Notre Dame and other local charities.



Maryanne Firth Special to the Echo

Richard Robins has many fond memories of his grandson Jake Hughes, who was killed in an ATV crash in Haliburton in 2012 at the age of 19.



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Santa comes to Wilberforce

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

Smiles washed across the faces of the young and old when the Joyful Noise band of Wilberforce performed the Christmas classic *Silver Bells* at the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre in Wilberforce.

On Sunday, Dec. 15 there were close to 200 people who saw the annual Santa Claus Parade on main street and then

came for the post-event party with Santa, photos and gifts for more than 90 children under 10.

It was truly a community event, owed to the Santa Claus Fund, its committee, organizer and Highlands East councillor Joan Barton, the Highland East Fire Department, who brought candy, hotdogs and Santa, the Highlands East Skating Club, volunteers such as members of the defunct Wilberforce and Area Volunteers Police Association and photographer Tammy Donaldson for her time and skills with the Santa prints given to all the children.



Above, the Wilberforce Library Launchers, who have raised \$32,850 of their \$40,000 goal, march in the annual Wilberforce Santa Claus Parade along the main street of Wilberforce on Sunday, Dec. 15. With close to 16 floats, there were close to 200 people lining the road who all came to see Santa being escorted by the Highlands East Fire Department.

Left, the "rockheads" of the Wilberforce Curling Club showed their spirit.



Santa Claus waves on his way inside of the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre following the annual Wilberforce Santa Claus Parade.



Riders with the South Algonquin Trails ride in the annual Wilberforce Santa Claus Parade.



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\$0 DOWN PAYMENT. NO SECURITY DEPOSIT. TAXES NOT INCLUDED. OFFER INCLUDES FREIGHT, PDI & LEVIES.

- TURBOCHARGED ECOTEC ENGINE
- BLUETOOTH® WITH USB
- POWER LOCKS WITH REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
- POWER WINDOWS



TRAX LTZ SHOWN††

2014 EQUINOX LS

LEASE PAYMENT

\$159 @ **0%**
BI-WEEKLY FOR 48 MONTHS*

\$0 DOWN PAYMENT. NO SECURITY DEPOSIT. TAXES NOT INCLUDED. OFFER INCLUDES FREIGHT, PDI & LEVIES.

- BLUETOOTH® WITH USB
- 6-SPEED AUTOMATIC
- AIR CONDITIONING
- POWER LOCKS WITH REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
- POWER WINDOWS
- BEST-IN-CLASS REAR SEAT LEGROOM*



EQUINOX LTZ FWD SHOWN††

ALL-NEW 2014 SILVERADO CREW CAB 4X4

LEASE PAYMENT

\$189 @ **1.5%**
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- AVAILABLE:**
- MOST FUEL-EFFICIENT V8 IN A PICKUP, BETTER THAN FORD F-150 ECOBOOST V6 (COMBINED)¹
 - MOST AVAILABLE POWER IN A PICKUP: 420 HP, 460 LB-FT TORQUE*
 - BEST AVAILABLE MAXIMUM TOWING IN ITS CLASS: UP TO 12,000 LBS*
 - HIGHEST POSSIBLE OVERALL VEHICLE SCORE FOR SAFETY – 5 STARS – FROM NHTSA²



SILVERADO LTZ CREW CAB 4X4 SHOWN††

HURRY, OFFERS END JANUARY 2ND.

TO GUARANTEE OUR QUALITY, WE BACK IT **160,000-KM/5-YEAR** POWERTRAIN WARRANTY
Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details.

VEHICLE PRICING IS NOW EASIER TO UNDERSTAND BECAUSE ALL OUR PRICES INCLUDE FREIGHT, PDI AND MANDATORY GOVERNMENT LEVIES. Prices do not include applicable taxes and PPST. Consumers may be required to pay up to \$799 for Dealer fees.**

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For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. †Based on a 60/48/48/36 month lease for 2014 Chevrolet (Cruze LS 1SA/Trax LS FWD 1SA/Equinox LS FWD 1LS/Traverse LS FWD 1LS/Silverado 1500 Crew Cab 4WD 1WT+G80+B30). Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, \$0.16 per excess kilometre. OAC by GM Financial. Monthly/BI-Weekly payments may vary depending on down payment/trade. A down payment or trade of \$0 and/or \$0 security deposit is required. Total obligation is \$10,850/\$13,446/\$16,577/\$20,737/\$14,772. Option to purchase at lease end is \$6,686/\$7,915/\$11,198/\$15,748/\$20,304. Excess wear and tear and km charges not included. Other lease options available. †\$3,500 is a manufacturer to dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive) for 2014 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Ext. & Crew Cab and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Other cash credits available on most models. See dealer for details. ††Freight & PDI (\$1,600/\$1,600/\$1,600/\$1,600/\$1,600), registration, air and tire levies and OMVIC fees included. Insurance, licence, PPST, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2014 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Quantities limited; dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. †Based on WardsAuto.com 2012 Upper Small segment, excluding Hybrid and Diesel powertrains. Standard 10 airbags, ABS, traction control and StabiliTrak®. ††Bluetooth is a registered trademark of Bluetooth SIG Inc. †Comparison based on 2013 Polk segmentation: Compact SUV and latest competitive data available and based on the maximum legroom available. Excludes other GM brands. †2014 Silverado 1500 with the available 5.3L EcoTec3 V8 engine equipped with a 6-speed automatic transmission has a fuel consumption rating of 12.9L/100 km city, 9.0L/100 km highway and 11.1L/100 km combined 2WD and 14.1L/100 km city, 9.6L/100 km highway and 12.1L/100 km combined 4WD. Fuel consumption based on GM Testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada test methods. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. Comparison based on wardsauto.com 2013 Large Pickup segment and latest competitive data available. Excludes other GM vehicles. †When equipped with available 6.2L EcoTec3 V8 engine (available to order fall 2013). Class is Light-Duty Full-Size Pickups. †Requires 2WD Double or Crew Cab with available 6.2L EcoTec3 V8 engine and Max Trailering Package. Maximum trailer weight ratios are calculated assuming a base vehicle, except for any option(s) necessary to achieve the rating, plus driver. The weight of other optional equipment, passengers and cargo will reduce the maximum trailer weight your vehicle can tow. Comparison based on wardsauto.com 2013 Light-Duty Large Pickup segment and latest competitive data available. Excludes other GM vehicles. Class is Light-Duty Full-Size Pickups. NHTSA's government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (safercar.gov). ††2014 Cruze LTZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies \$28,489. 2014 Trax LTZ FWD, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies \$30,089. 2014 Equinox LTZ FWD, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies \$48,289. 2014 Silverado 1500 LTZ Crew Cab 4WD, MSRP \$51,379. Dealers are free to set individual prices. †Offer valid only to eligible retail lessees in Canada who have obtained credit approval by GM Financial, have entered into a lease agreement with GM Financial, and who accept delivery from October 1, 2013 through January 2, 2014 of a new eligible 2014 model. General Motors of Canada will pay the first month's lease payment (inclusive of taxes and any applicable pro-rata amount normally due at lease delivery as defined on the lease agreement). After the first month, lessee will be required to make all remaining scheduled payments over the remaining term of the lease agreement. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. General Motors of Canada Limited reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Void where prohibited by law. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ††The 2-Year Scheduled Lube-Oil-Filter Maintenance Program provides eligible customers in Canada, who have purchased, leased or financed a new eligible 2014 MY Chevrolet, Buick, or GMC vehicle (excluding Spark EV), with an ACDelco oil and filter change, in accordance with the oil life monitoring system and the Owner's Manual, for 2 years or 40,000 kms, whichever occurs first, with a limit of four (4) Lube-Oil-Filter services in total, performed at participating GM Dealers. Fluid top offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc. are not covered. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. The \$1,000 credit includes HST/GST/PTST as applicable by province. As part of the transaction, dealer will request current vehicle registration and/or insurance to prove ownership for the previous consecutive six months. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Void where prohibited by law. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See your GM dealer for details. ††Offer only valid from December 10, 2013 – January 2, 2013 (the "Program Period") to retail customers resident in Canada who own or are currently leasing (during the Program Period) a GM or competitor pickup truck to receive a \$1,000 credit towards the purchase, finance or lease of an eligible new 2014 Model Year Chevrolet Silverado Light Duty, Silverado Heavy Duty Sierra Light Duty, Sierra Heavy Duty, or Avalanche. Only one (1) credit may be applied per eligible vehicle sale. Offer is transferable to a family member living in the same household (proof of address required). This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. The \$1,000 credit includes HST/GST/PTST as applicable by province. As part of the transaction, dealer will request current vehicle registration and/or insurance to prove ownership. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Void where prohibited by law. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See your GM dealer for details.

New doctor sets up practice in Haliburton

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

When Judy Suke was young she wanted to be a veterinarian, to spice up the conversations around the dinner table.

With a mother who is a doctor, as well as two siblings working in the field of medicine, it was almost like the family business for the Sukes.

However, as time passed her heart changed and soon enough the 31-year-old found herself applying to and eventually studying medicine.

"I wanted to be a vet until mid-way through high school,"

said Suke. "Then decided, after talking to people I loved the most ... to become a human doctor and just have animals."

Born and raised in Toronto, Suke recently completed her residency and has made the move to Haliburton.

Married with a young daughter, and another child on the way, Suke spent the past two years doing her residency in North Bay, after doing med school at the University of Ottawa.

When she and her husband, who works as a chef, were deciding where to settle down, Haliburton County made its way to the top of the list.

"I spent a lot of time growing up in a canoe and skiing. Anytime we weren't in school we were out of the city," said Suke. "I always knew I'd live outside of the city."

Avid outdoor enthusiasts who love cross-country skiing and paddling, Suke and her husband were familiar with the Highlands from time at the Wild Water Preserve.

Previous experience includes working in outdoor education and as a white water canoe instructor and cross-country ski instructor.

"I raced at the Gull for years, as well as skied up here," she said.

Being surrounded by nature but in close proximity to cities such as Ottawa and Toronto meant Haliburton suited the young family perfectly.

Suke officially made the move just over two months ago and is settling in quickly.

She is working four days a week, overseeing former patients of Dr. Bob Heyes, who is decreasing his workload, but not yet retiring.

"He's an absolutely wonderful guy and I feel very lucky to share an office with him. He's a great mentor."

A general practitioner, Suke is working within the Family Health Team and not accepting new patients at this time, already responsible for 520 people.

"Ultimately I will have more patients, but as I'm just starting it's a lot of people to get to know and I'm just in no rush to add yet," she said.

Getting comfortable with the area has been easy, as both Suke and her husband love aspects of living in a small town.

"We thought long and hard about this, because we have a two-and-a-half-year-old ... we've travelled enough that we're done travelling," said Suke. "We were looking for a lifelong place."



Municipality of Dysart et al

135 Maple Ave, PO Box 389,
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0

(705)457-1740 www.dysartetel.ca



CHRISTMAS TIPS

REDUCE – REUSE – RECYCLE



Wrapping paper is **not** recyclable.



ALL our Landfill sites accept your used **household batteries** and unwanted **E-Waste** for recycling **FREE** of charge.



LANDFILL HOLIDAY HOURS



ALL Landfills will be **CLOSED** on **Christmas Day** and **New Year's Day**.

Regular winter hours are in affect for all other days.

Visit www.dysartetel.ca for more information or contact the Municipal Office.

(Landfill cards must be shown at the gate)

Space provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.



Angelica Blenich Staff

Judy Suke is the newest doctor in town, having moved to Haliburton in the past few months. Suke, 31, is working full-time with the Family Health Team and is overseeing patients that were previously with Dr. Bob Heyes.

BANCROFT DENTURE CLINIC

Restoring Your Smile

We've moved to
191 Hastings St. N.
Next to
Loyalist College.
Please call
for adjustments
or repairs.

Gavin Butler DD
Denturist

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www.haliburtonecho.ca

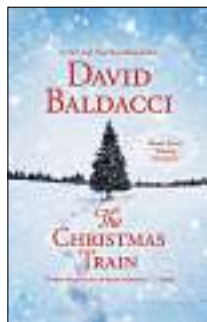
Season's Greetings



Happy Holidays from



Christmas books and more at the Haliburton County Public Library



The holidays are upon us, and at the Haliburton County Public Library we have many materials to get you into the Christmas spirit. Below, are just a few of the Christmas titles we have available to reserve from our collection.

Adult Fiction

The Christmas Train by David Baldacci: Disillusioned journalist Tom

Langdon travels by train from Washington, D.C. to L.A. Little does he know that onboard he will become reacquainted with Eleanor, the one that got away. *The Christmas Train* is a story of hope, second chances, and holiday cheer.

A Christmas Hope by Anne Perry: Set in Victorian London, this delectable murder mystery introduces readers to Claudine Burroughs, a woman of the upper classes caught in a loveless marriage and less than fulfilling life. Claudine meets a charming poet at a yuletide gala, but her new joy turns to shock when soon after, the poet is accused of murder, and only Claudine will speak for his innocence.

Winter Solstice by Rosemunde Pilcher: a lovely novel set in Scotland, where on Dec. 21, the shortest day of the year, five very different people come together, ranging in age from teenagers to older adults, each of whom must confront very different challenges or losses.

Adult Non-Fiction

Family Christmas Treasures: a Celebration of Art and Stories edited by Kacey Barron: A treasury of fine art and literature on Christmas as it is celebrated around the world. Includes writings of Dickens, Beecher Stowe, and Binchy,

as well as art and illustrations by Rockwell, Warhol, Picasso, and more.

Young Adult Fiction

Let It Snow by John Green, Maureen Johnson, and Lauren Myracle: A Christmas Eve snowstorm turns one sleepy town into a winter wonderland, where anything can happen. A stranded train, a mythic waffle house, and the promise of true love can be found in this collection of three connected stories by some of the biggest names in young adult fiction today.

Juvenile Fiction

A Christmas to Remember edited by Jean Little: A Christmas collection for Dear Canada



readers, both old and new! Includes 11 stories that each revisit a favourite character from the Dear Canada series, all of which are set during the holiday season.

Children's Fiction

The Christmas Wish by Per Breiehagen and Lori Evert: A cozy Nordic tale, told through the words of Lori Evert and the photography of Per Breiehagen.

Long ago, a brave little girl named Anja wanted to be one of Santa's elves, so she embarks on a heart-warming and magical adventure.

Holiday Programming

The HCPL will also be running children's holiday programming with stories, crafts and more at many branches over the next few weeks. Below is a list of dates and times for the holiday programming:

Minden Branch

Dec. 20 and Jan. 3,
10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Dysart Branch

Dec. 21 and Jan. 3,
10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Wilberforce

Dec. 21
10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Highland Grove

Jan. 4
2 to 3 p.m.
Visit the Haliburton County Public Library and pick up some holiday cheer!



Wishing you a very
Merry Christmas
and a safe &
Happy New Year...



Wade, Jane
Family & Staff

THE
PUMP SHOP





Butterscotch confetti

Ingredients

1 cup butterscotch chips
1/2 cup peanut butter
1/4 cup hard butter
8 ounces coloured mini marshmallows

Directions:

1. Heat the butterscotch chips, peanut butter and butter. 2. Stir until smooth. Watch it; peanut butter burns quickly! 3. Cool a wee bit. 4. Stir in marshmallows. 5. Pat into a greased 8x8-inch pan and chill. 6. Cut into squares.

we love the holidays too!



We appreciate your business & look forward to serving you in 2014!

HOLIDAY HOURS

DEC. 24.....7 AM – 6 PM
DEC. 25.....CLOSED

DEC. 26.....8 AM – 5 PM
DEC. 27-30.....7 AM – 9 PM

DEC 31.....7 AM – 6 PM
JAN. 1.....CLOSED

TODD'S
YOUR NEIGHBOUR

independent
YOUR INDEPENDENT GROCER

HAPPY Holidays

TO CLIENTS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY
FROM LAURIE, ROSS AND FAMILY.

All the Best for 2014
Laurie Burk's Hairstyling
In Your Home
(for over 30 years)



With Our Thanks at the Holiday's

From all the Staff at

WEST GUILFORD
Shopping Centre

Bill & Edna,	Chris Chumbley,
Chad & Steph,	Angie Hayward,
Chase & Ellie,	Jen Coates,
Cori, Trevor & Piper,	Frosty,
Pat Morrison,	Lahna McClory
Rhonda Shaw,	

and the Rest of the Gang
www.wgsc.ca



The traditions of Christmas past – and present

By Kate Butler

Director, Haliburton Highlands Museum

What's your favourite Christmas custom? It seems like everyone has those traditions without which "it just

Continued on page 5



Haliburton Village in the winter has changed a lot over the years, but the idyllic snowy landscape remains the same.

Christmas Hours

HALIBURTON FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE

7217 Gelert Rd. (beside Haliburton Hospital)

CHRISTMAS HOURS

Tuesday, December 24th
OPEN 9 a.m. to 12 noon
 (Walkin 9 a.m. to 12 noon)

Wednesday, December 25th **CLOSED**

Thursday, December 26th **CLOSED**

Friday, December 27th **OPEN 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
 (Walkin 9 a.m. to 12 noon)

Tuesday, December 31st **OPEN 9 a.m. to 12 noon**
 (Walkin 9 a.m. to 12 noon)

Wednesday, January 1st **CLOSED**

*Doctors and Staff would like to wish
 you a very happy and safe
 holiday season.*

**Friendship, Goodwill,
Support ...**

With thanks for your friendship, goodwill
and support during the holidays and
throughout the new year!

Holly & John
LAKEVIEW MOTEL

**People Everywhere
Share The Dream Of Peace**

This special season, we join with all faiths to pray that the
world continues on its way toward realizing that dream.

Happy Holidays
 Thank you for continued support.

*Gord, Kathryn,
Debbie and Christine*

HALIBURTON & MINDEN HEARING SERVICE



Stop by the museum for fun, treats and traditions

Continued from page 4

doesn't seem like Christmas." Of course, the history of the holiday has its roots over 2,000 years ago, but some of our most beloved traditions actually have their origins in the more recent past. In fact, in the early part of the Victorian era – the decades just before the settlement of Haliburton – the holiday was set for revitalization

Christmas had been a popular celebration throughout Europe in the Middle Ages, with carols, feasting and the use of greenery for decoration all being part of the festivities. In the early 17th century however, everything changed in Britain, thanks to a man named Oliver Cromwell. After the victory of the Parliamentarians in the English Civil War and the execution of King Charles I, Cromwell became the Lord Protectorate of England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland. Cromwell and his government viewed the celebration of Christmas and other holy days as extravagant and excessive and contrary to the Puritanical work ethic and lifestyle they sought to promote. In fact, a 1652 broadsheet authorized by Cromwell recently came up for sale at Sotheby's which declared: "No observation shall be had of the Five and twentieth day of December, commonly called Christmas-Day." In essence, this curmudgeon had cancelled Christmas!

Though the return of the Royalists to power and the restoration of Charles II to the throne in 1660 reversed Cromwell's declaration, Christmas remained more subdued of an occasion in Britain than it had been in centuries before. In 1837 however, everything started to change. That year brought a new queen to the British throne. Victoria was only 18 years old, and she seemed to embody the hopes of a nation. Over the next few years, she married Prince Albert, the love of her life, and started a family. Albert was German and he brought the Christmas traditions of his childhood with him to Britain. In 1848, an engraving appeared in the *Illustrated London News* which showed the royal family decorating a tabletop Christmas tree. Greenery had long been a popular holiday decoration

in Britain, and the decorating of outdoor trees was nothing new, but the indoor tree was definitely unusual. Victoria and Albert were the William and Kate of their day; so of course, everyone then wanted a Christmas tree in his or her home.

In general, the 1840s were a great decade for Christmas traditions both new and old. In 1843, the first commercially produced Christmas card was made. As transportation improved and postage rates decreased, sending Christmas cards quickly became a tradition that most people could enjoy. 1847, meanwhile, marked the first appearance of Christmas crackers (and the beginning of goofy paper crowns that fall down over your eyes during Christmas dinner!). Tom Smith of London was reputed to have invented them as a way of boosting dwindling sales of the bonbons he was in the business of making. The 1840s also saw a resurgence of interest in the singing of Christmas carols, but it was really an 1843 publication that would change Christmas forever. Charles Dickens' tale of a miser learning to find happiness through charity and compassion for his fellow man struck a profound chord with the public, and in the years after *A Christmas Carol's* publication, Dickens travelled widely each holiday season delivering readings of the work. Thus, by 1864, when the village of Haliburton was settled, Christmas was back in full swing and early settlers to the area would have brought with them customs and traditions that would have reminded them of their old home and been adapted to suit their new one.

Would you like to learn more about the history of our Christmas traditions? Make sure to stop by the Haliburton Highlands Museum on Dec. 21 for our last installment of Christmas at the Museum – we'll have tasty treats, fun activities and a bit of festive history thrown in for good measure! For more information, call 705-457-2760, email info@haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com or check us out on Twitter or Facebook. We hope you and your loved ones have a fantastic Christmas and enjoy all of your favourite Christmas traditions!



Season's Greetings

HS HIGHLANDS STORAGE

Carnarvon

705-489-3925

With the passing of the year,
we also take time to remember the passing of
our friend, husband, father,
grandfather and good guy:
our very own Santa Claus,
Gord Monk

May every family be blessed with such wonderful memories.
THE MONK & CRAY FAMILIES

Wishing You Much
Harmony And Joy
At Christmas



Thanking all our Clients for another
excellent year, wishing you all a
Merry Christmas and a safe and
Happy New Year.

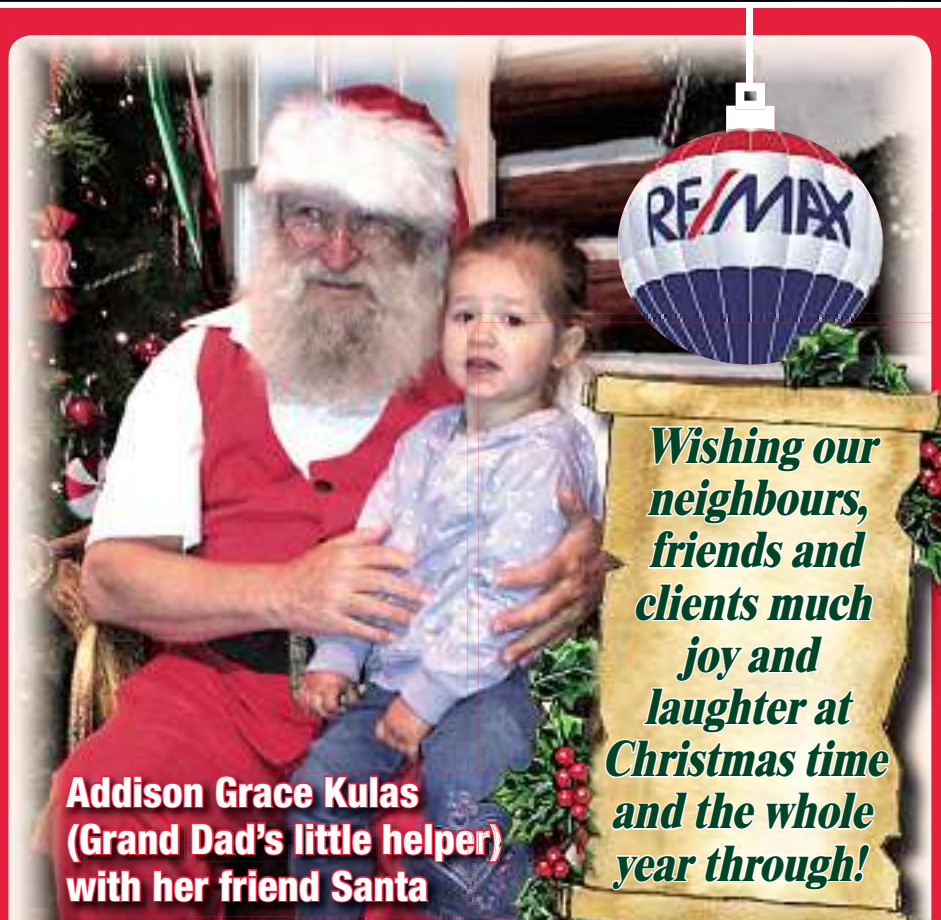
From Steve, Don, Ann, Wilf,
John, Don S., Curtis & Dan

**DON BARKER
HEATING & COOLING**

705.489.2004

**Keith
Cowen**

**WISH YOU ALL A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY NEW YEAR**



**Wishing our
neighbours,
friends and
clients much
joy and
laughter at
Christmas time
and the whole
year through!**

**Addison Grace Kulas
(Grand Dad's little helper)
with her friend Santa**

*Grand Dad is out cutting the Christmas tree so he has
asked Santa and I to pass along a message from the whole
"Kulas Family"!*

And remember, if you are planning to

SELL or BUY property in 2014

give my Grand Dad, Bill Kulas a call.

You'll be glad you did!

705-286-2911 ext 444



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Bill Kulas is a Sales Representative with RE/MAX North Country Realty - This advertisement is not intended to solicit those currently under contract.

Keep busy with fun snow day activities

Few things are as eagerly anticipated by children as birthdays, holiday presents and, of course, snow days.

When the meteorologist predicts several inches of snow, most kids go to sleep to visions of sledding, snowball fights and building snow forts. Should the school dis-

trict close for the day, cheers can be heard throughout the neighbourhood.

Although children may revel in the idea of days off from school due to snow, parents may not be as enthusiastic.

Entertaining children when they typically should be in class can take creativity, especially when the weather is inhospitable.

To alleviate bouts of cabin fever or prevent cases of hypothermia, there are many fun things parents can consider.

And don't tell the children, but some are educational, too.

- Put out bird seed or a suet block and feed the neighbourhood birds. Compare the different species that come to grab an easy meal. Artistic kids can sketch what they see by looking out the window.

- Shovel a shallow path in the snow around the yard to create a snow maze. Build snow blinds, behind which kids can hide.

- Gather winter nature items, like pine cones and icicles. Look for frozen "fossils."

- Brew a thermos full of hot chocolate and go sit out with the neighbours who are probably going a bit stir crazy as well.

- Check in on elderly friends and neighbours and offer to shovel their driveways and walkways, if necessary.

- Pretend you are on a North Pole expedition and hike through the neighbourhood in a quest to reach the summit of a mountain or to find a hidden treasure.

- Use spray bottles or squirt bottles filled with water and food colouring to draw masterpieces in the snow.

- Gather a clean patch of snow and pour maple syrup onto it. Allow to harden and then enjoy homemade maple candies.

- Explore and look for winter plants and other foliage that survive the chill.

- Grab skates and head to an ice rink or solid (and safe) pond.

- Decorate an outdoor tree with streamers and popcorn garland.

- If it's too chilly for a picnic in the snow, place a

*Sending warm wishes and hoping
the holiday delivers a bundle of
glad tidings to you and yours.*

*We're always happy to serve you
and thank you for choosing us!*

Andrea, Monte and staff



Where memories begin!

"Behold, the Lamb of God."

John 1:29

May the light of love and joy shine
on you and your family throughout the year.
God bless you.



**HALIBURTON
VETERINARY SERVICES
Dr. Laurie Brown & Staff**

Continued on page 13

The lost mitten

By Janet Trull

Christmas is a season of many emotions. Maybe it's the darkness gathering too early in the afternoon. Maybe the weather has something to do with it. But some years it takes a little more effort to get caught up in the excitement of parades and shopping and decorations. My first Christmas as a married woman was one of those years. It was a great struggle to make "merry". My young husband and I were unemployed. We were living with my in-laws. I was expecting an unexpected baby. Nothing was turning out the way we had pictured it when we walked down the aisle, full of optimism and joy, back in sunny July.

I waitressed for a while, and then I got a part-time job delivering flowers. I filled the van at the florist's shop with beautiful bouquets and followed a route around town. The hospital was always the first stop. It wasn't long before I realized that I was more than a little bit lucky to be dropping those "Get Well" bouquets off, instead of lying in a hospital bed on the receiving end. I wasn't ill. I didn't have a relative who was ill.

When I made the house deliveries, people were often wary as they answered the door, thinking that perhaps I was selling something or asking for money. Watching their expressions change from wary to happy was heart-warming. Someone was thinking about them. They were loved. They felt special.

On the way back to the florist's I delivered the funeral sprays, tall bouquets in big baskets with purple ribbons and sad notes bearing condolences. I would go around to the back of the funeral home and take them into the solemn environment where families were grieving. A sense of gratefulness started to creep in to alter my "poor me" mood.

A week before Christmas there was a tragedy in town. A Grade 2 class left their school for a field trip to the local library. Perhaps they were singing carols or decorating the tree, I don't remember. But after they had crossed the busy intersection, a little girl realized she had dropped her mitten on the road. She turned and saw it there, a

red mitten in the slush. Without asking the teacher, she darted out to get it. A car hit her and she was killed instantly.

Oh, what a sad group sat around the florist's table the next day, as they put together bouquets of pink sweet-heart roses and baby's breath. "How many times," said one floral designer, "have I scolded my kids for coming home with only one mitten? Never again will I complain about anything so insignificant," she said.

Loss is something we all have to come to terms with. Lost jobs. Lost investments. Lost loves. Some things can be replaced. Some cannot. Christmas is a good time to glance in the rear view mirror, not to regret, but to count our blessings.

"We are nearer to spring than we were in September, I heard a bird sing in the dark of December." ~ Oliver Herford.



FREE HOLIDAY PUBLIC SKATING

Minden Arena
Friday, December 27th 12 pm – 2 pm

Haliburton Arena
Sunday, January 5th 10:30 am – 1:30 pm

Century 21
Granite Realty Group Ltd. Brokerage®

Direct Line: 705-457-6505



Courtesy of,
Karen Nimigon-Broker
www.KarenNimigon.com



Happy Holidays!
To all our loyal customers,
thanks for your support. From
the staff at:



You, our loyal customers, are the secret to our success.
Thank you for doing business with us again this year.
We wish you a safe and Happy Holiday Season
and a prosperous 2014

G. Rowden Construction

*...And To All
A Good Night!*

May all your dreams come true
during this magical season.
We couldn't have wished
for better friends than you.
Thanks for everything!

Barry & Kendra
and the families of

BLAIR
Sand & Gravel

Breakfast with Santa



Angelica Blenich Staff

Three-year-old Brody Hartwig was ready to give the big man a big hug at YMCA's Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 7. The free event included a hot, buffet breakfast indoor games, crafts and live animals.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

*Sending you
a bouquet
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Happy Holidays with a
perfect measure of Fun & Laughter.

Looking forward to meeting and
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Carol Jamieson LL.B

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Clockwise from top left, there was room for two as friends Gerrit Kooistra, left, and Nate Boore shared their time with jolly St. Nick at YMCA's Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 7.

Seven-year-old Nevaeh Smith was all smiles while getting her face painted by a helper.

Miniature horses such as Romeo, right, were feeling festive.

Four-year-old Nolan Bitten had a great time meeting Santa Claus. After taking a one-year hiatus, the event was more popular than ever as close to 200 people of all ages attended for a free hot breakfast. Festivities included arts and crafts, games, a live animal show and miniature horses.

Angelica Blenich Staff

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

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and Best Wishes in the New Year!

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The moment of Christmas

A South Lake memory by George Pratt

Until the township schools of Haliburton County were centralized in the early 1950s, every one of them produced its own Christmas concert. So it was at Bat Lake School, whence was registered nary a child from Bat Lake, but four Pratts and two Martins (their cousins) along with Paul Lynden, all from South Lake — and pretty, freckled little Lorna Hogg from Canning Lake.

Starting in late November, preparations for the concert were taken up in a frenzy, which by late December developed into a fever.

The plays and songs and recitations were selected from old manuscripts kept in the teacher's desk, all specimens of Victorian rectitude, be assured, for indeed they were that old. They were dusted off and duly memorized and practiced, an enterprise that provided a welcome relief from our normal routine of no-nonsense book-learning.

Decorations, the most imaginative of which were red and green woven chains, were cut from rolls of crepe paper and

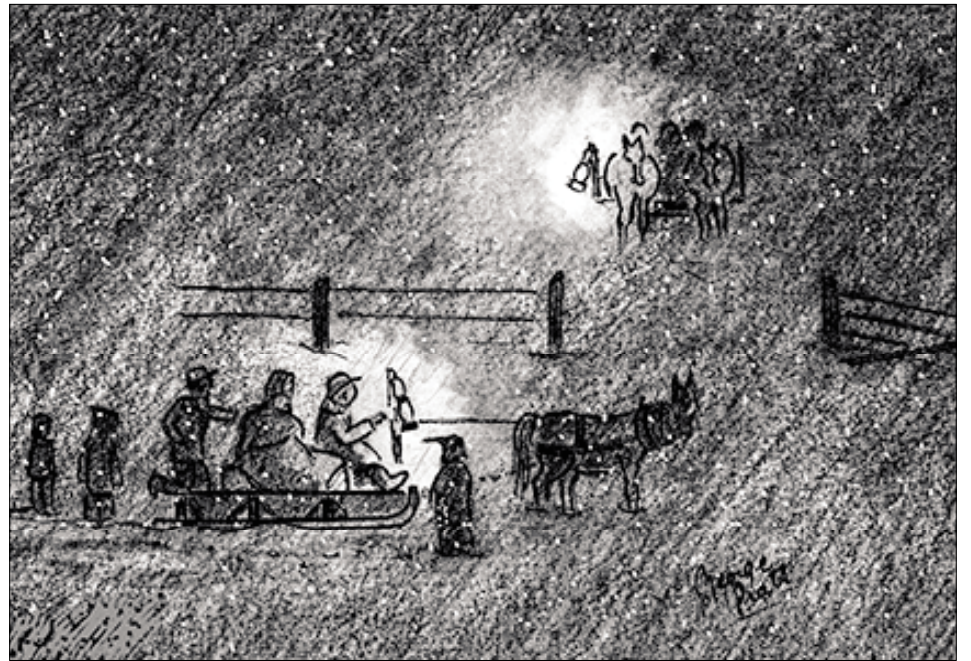
pinned up over the one-roomed school's four windows, where a woodpecker pattern of holes in the moldings evidenced the decorating of all the years since 1890.

Of all the preparations, it seemed to me that we laboured longest in the drawing of our poster. Painstakingly scribed on standard sheets of foolscap, the lettering touted the concert in a rustic kidprint, the composite product of all eight students in five grades. (There weren't enough kids to make up eight grades.)

Holly leaves and berries were drawn ever so imaginatively around the border by the older kids, candy canes at each corner by the younger. Aside from looking at old Christmas cards, we could only guess at what holly really looked like, because none grew around where we lived.

The last line of the poster, its motley colour calculated to elicit excitement, exhorted "COME ONE, COME ALL" in a wildly imaginative script that was closer to a hieroglyphic.

When it was all drawn, we coaxed 12 copies off our ink-slopped gelatin-pad Hectograph, a fixture in all pre-1950s Ontario



schools. The colouring we filled in later by hand. Displaying none of the normal resistance at having to run long distance errands, we proudly distributed our posters all the way from Walter Ireland's stone house, a mile past the school closer to Minden, to Ern Barry's log house, three miles away toward Gelert, to Eric Paulimaki's board and batten house, a mile in along the Canning Lake road. The Pratt kids could deliver one to "Old" Bob Shaw's house, it being December, whence their route home took them across the frozen ice of South Lake. Alton and Shirley Hughes and "Old" Mrs. Pogue lived right near the school so the smaller kids ran posters over to them. Little Lorna Hogg could drop off one to Kurt and Gertrude Soling, the old German couple who had mysteriously settled on Bat Lake just before the war. (They were anti-Nazi and had had to flee, but none of us knew that. We were told they were proba-

bly "spies" whatever that meant.) What we did know for sure was that plump Mrs. Soling could make the world's greatest strudel and her twinkling blue eyes smiled on all kids. That was enough forget about their spying and invite them to the concert. At least one copy was taken by the teacher to the post office bulletin board in Minden, where it heralded our grand event alongside the competing, gaudy proclamations of the Red School and Bethel School posters. The dates of the performances seemed coincidentally staggered, but in truth it was by consultation between the respective teachers and Ralph Hussey, the altogether excellent county music teacher, who would have to attend at each school to provide the accordion accompaniment. With a little luck, we expected that maybe as many as a dozen people besides our own families might attend.

Continued on page 12

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



From All Of Us At Haliburton Lumber

Adam Wilson
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Amanda Robinson
Arlene Scheffee
Ben Germuska
Bill Dovell
Bill Tripp
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We look forward to your continued support!

Merry Christmas

Wishing you and yours a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Murray Fearrey
Reeve Municipality of Dysart et al

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CLOSED Christmas Day - Dec 25th

OPEN Boxing Day - Dec 26th 8am-6pm

OPEN at 7am Dec 27th-31st

Closing at 6pm New Year's Eve - Dec 31st



CLOSED New Year's Day - Jan 1st

OPEN at 7am Jan 2nd

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Thank you for your continued support in 2014. Watch for exciting things to come in the New Year!

Joanne, Courtney, Kevin, Joel, Jillian, Faith, Jake, Mike, Easton, Burton and Remington

A magical evening

Continued from page 10

I have only high-spotted here the tumultuous preparation that pervaded Bat Lake School in those short days through November and December; I will not describe at all the excitement of the concert itself, for it is described in my full narrative concerning our early days at South Lake. No, this story is not really about those details. It is, rather, a tale of the fleetingest of magic moments on the night of the actual concert; a momentary vignette that would soon be erased from the great world whiteboard, save that I am recording it here.

On the night of the Bat Lake Christmas concert in 1947 it was lightly snowing with no moonlight. Pretty Anna Agnew, our downright capable teacher, imported all the way from Gooderham, had coached us through mighty preparations; all was now ready for the Christmas concert at Bat Lake School.

We had run all the way home at four o'clock to scrub and dress in our best clothes, which, for every one of us, were hand-me-downs — but all freshly washed and hauled in by Mom off the frozen line when the snow had started that afternoon. We gave no thought to supper; we knew that at the concert, there would be food — savory food of rare variety, followed by desserts beyond imagining — food in abundance, prepared and brought in tea-towel-covered six-quart baskets by all the women 'round.

The excitement was no longer a fever; it was an exquisite pain.

We would travel back to the school by jumper.

Jumper?

Using young white ash trees that he cut off our farm, Dad had cobbled together a small one-horse sledge that he called a "jumper." About eight feet long, it looked like an overgrown child's snow-sled. It was the only transportation we owned.

With Mom and baby Linda snuggled under a blanket on the jumper (along with Mom's basket of goodies, kept secret from the vulturous prying of we six older kids) and Dad beside her, driving old Mick, we started the long pull to the school. Bob and Bill had stayed on after school that day to keep the fire going in the box stove; Fred, Donnie, Shirley and I alternately rode and scampered alongside as old Mick trudged steadily through the deepening snow. He knew the jumper was padded with hay that he would get to eat when we got to wherever we were going.

The coal-oil lantern, hanging on one of the jumper stakes, radiated a pale yellow glow that produced an altogether pleasing sparkle on the snowflakes; the wafting warm smell of the flickering wick was a sharp contrast to the pristine evergreen scent of the pine forests around us.

Although no Christmas card could portray a seasonal scene more compelling, there was nothing special about this to us — it was just the way we did things.

After most of a mile, we presently came abreast of the Hamilton farm gate, whence Dad stopped to give Mick a rest and there occurred a magical happening that has remained imprinted on my soul to this day. We sat quietly for a few minutes as the snow wisped gently upon us, everyone

Continued on page 13

Merry Christmas



Wendy, Mike, Mary, Michelle, Brad and Leona



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CHRISTMAS HOURS:
Dec 24th 7:30-12 • Dec 25th and 26th closed
Reg hours Dec 27th, 28th and 30th • Dec 31st 7:30-12
Jan 1st closed • Jan 2nd resume reg hours

Happy New Year

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Sound of bells like God's whisper

Continued from page 12

bewitched by the silence of the inky night pressing in on the glow of our lantern.

But then—like God's whisper, floating across the invisible pasture, came a faint sound of the tinkling of bells which could only just be heard over the noise of old Mick snuffling and blowing in the dark.

The tinkling grew louder, now clearly moving down the long lane toward us; and presently, through the filter of snowflakes, we could see the faint loom of a lantern. It was the Hamiltons, for they too were heading out for the concert.

Their two grand Clydesdales, Ginger and Prettyboy, were hitched to their sleigh, resolutely pulling the stout Jessie Hamilton and her equally stout brother Walt Donnelly with his wife Winnie, all perched on a straw palliasse

under a blanket. We could not see them, only the glow of the lantern; but we could hear the bells, the joyous, tinkling Christmas bells, trembling where Walt had fixed them on the rumps of those great draft horses that were plodding through the snowy night toward us.

At the age of eight, when my head should have been awl with thoughts of the Christmas bounty waiting at the school, I was mesmerized by the moment. If angels had begun heralding from the sky, as it is said they did on another night long ago, I could not, rather we all could not, have been beset by a greater rapture.

The moment was interrupted by Mick blowing a low whinny of greeting to the newcomers. The Hamiltons, seemingly oblivious to us, pulled silently past, the only sound the deep breathing of their horses and the runners of their sleighs creaking on the snow.

We let them go ahead of us to break the path; then Dad chirped the go-ahead and Mick dropped his head and

heaved on the traces to pull us steadily behind them. In a reverie of reflective awe, we glided the remaining miles over the drifted road to the school, the only sound the occasional snuffle from a horse and the bells tinkling their snowy serenade to the quiet forests that surrounded us.

Of life at South Lake, and of the 65 Christmases since, I have a no more poignant memory.

Pass the time with a game

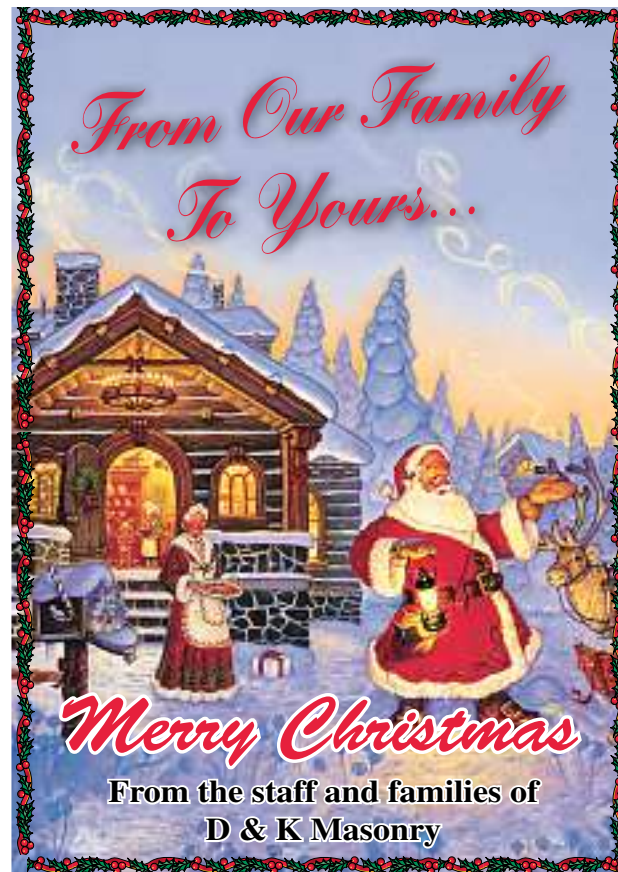
Continued from page 6

blanket on the family room floor and enjoy an indoor picnic.

- Rent a movie and cuddle on the couch under blankets.
- Have a marathon video game battle.
- Put on some tunes and dance around the house.
- Play a classic game, such as Twister or Monopoly.
- Take out modelling clay or dough and create different play figures or ornaments.
- Whip up a hearty meal together, giving kids free reign over the ingredients.
- Play with toy trucks and cars in the snow.
- Engage in a snowball fight.
- Find the tallest hill in the area and test your bravery on the back of a sled.
- Chase the dog around the backyard. Dogs often like to play in the snow, too.
- Sit in sunny windows and read books silently or to the group.
- Make sock puppets and put on a show.
- Catch up on beauty sleep by taking a nice nap under a warm quilt.
- Bake a batch of brownies or cookies.

Snow days don't have to be restless mornings and afternoons spent locked indoors.

There are many different and fun ways to pass the hours.



Yuletide Greetings

With wishes warm and bright to you and your family this Christmas.
Your loyal business is always appreciated.

Sharp Electric

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Wishing you and yours a magical holiday season filled with old fashioned pleated!

Thank you for your support this year and we look forward to welcome you to the museum again in 2014

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Closed at Noon
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Open Dec. 27-31
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Happy New Year!

Holiday Greetings... From Our Home to Yours!



Ray, Laura, Tyler, Laurie, Patrick, Claudette, Jen.

Not Present: Doug, Susan, Fred, Charlotte, Cody, Angus, Keith, Brandon, Jonathon & Andrea.



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Cookie walk supports local church



The Haliburton United Church's annual Cookie Walk got community members out in search of delectable treats Dec. 7.



Photos by Tara O'Reilly

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Monday
December 23, 2013
to
Sunday
January 5, 2014
(inclusive)

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Events for Christmas week

Stocking Stuffer Workshop

Make felted soap at the Art Hive on Dec. 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. \$5 and bring your own soap. 705-754-0021

The Nutcracker

Heritage Ballet presents The Nutcracker, 10th anniversary

sary! Saturday, Dec. 21 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 22 starting at 2 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.

Cost is \$15.

Tickets are available at Cranberry Cottage, Haliburton, and Pharmasave, Minden.

Contact Julie for more information at 705-457-1990 or julie.barban@gmail.com.

Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, Dec. 25 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce.

Free for everyone; come and enjoy a home-cooked Christmas meal.

Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, Dec. 25 McKecks restaurant is offering a

free Christmas dinner for those in need from 2 to 4 p.m. RSVP appreciated, but not necessary. 705-457-3443

Free Public Skating

Friday, Dec. 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Keith Tallman Memorial Arena in Wilberforce.

Free Public Skating

Every day there is free skating at the Stanhope and Dorset outdoor rinks. First come, first served.

CELEBRATE THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

*We invite you to visit one of our
Christian Churches this Christmas*

Christmas Eve Services... Tuesday, December 24th

Haliburton United	705-457-1891	7:00pm
Minden United Church	705-286-1470	7:00pm
Zion United Church	705-286-1470	3:00pm
Maple Lake United Church	705-286-1470	9:00pm
St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church	705-457-3695	7:30pm
Our Lady of Fatima RC Church	705-286-4117	5:00pm & 9:00pm
St. George's Anglican Church	705-455-9569	7:30pm
St. Paul's Anglican Church, Minden	705-286-2541	9:00pm
St. Peter's Anglican Church, Maple Lake	705-286-2541	7:00pm
St. James Anglican Church, Kinmount	705-286-2541	4:00pm
Lakeside Baptist Church	705-457-2851	6:30pm
West Guilford Baptist Church	705-754-1537	7:00pm
Lighthouse Pentecostal Church	705-457-2262	6:30pm
Allsaw Pentecostal Church	705-457-1963	6:00pm
Minden Bible Church	705-286-1338	6:00pm
Eagle Lake Community Church	705-455-7467	7:00pm

Essonville Line Church	705-448-1604	Dec. 22 at 7:00pm
St. Patrick's Church, Kinmount	705-488-2222	Dec. 25 at 9:00am



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Merry Christmas!

Dwaine & Lori Lloyd

GREETINGS OF THE SEASON



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Christmas
&
Happy
New
Year*

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Rudolph and the ... boys?

Why, if we weren't all sitting around a bonfire out back of my cottage when Twindle Mumbly dropped the bomb. Oh, not the kind that splits atoms and sends cows flying over the moon. The kind that makes your brain explode

*Wishing Everyone
a Wonderful
Holiday Season*

**Organic
Times**

**May your holiday bring joy
and laughter to last through
Christmas and thereafter.**



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Minden
JUST ACROSS THE BRIDGE
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and your eyeballs spin like yoyos, don'tcha know.

What's ol' Maybelle talking about?

I'm TALKING about three nights ago. Vilma Yucch, Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom, Beanpole Starkman, Sybil Beaucannon Hughes, Twindle Mumbly, and yours truly were waxing poetic about Christmas and Mother Nature wearing her lovely winter white when the conversation turned to shock and surprise.

"I am in complete and utter heaven," Sybil said in her thick British accent. "Just look at the snow sparkling in the moonlight."

"Ya," Vilma said. "Like RHYME stones."

"Rhine stones, dear," I said. Vilma still has trouble speaking Canadian.

"Ya, rhyme stones," she said smiling.

Officer McB pulled her close, his big man-arm claiming his honey as the best present even Santa couldn't top.

"Did you see the giant gingerbread house that Morley and Farley Fester donated to the middle school?" Officer McB said.

"See it? I ATE it," boasted Beanpole.

"Impossible!" said Sybil. "The thing stands nine feet high."

"I ate the doorknob."

"You ARE a doorknob, Beanpole," she shot back.

"Now, now," I said. "Play nice."

Beanpole and Sybil kept at it until Twindle broke it up. "I love Christmas," he said. "And I love saying it. There's no way I'm going to start saying something else like: Happy Holidays."

"I'll second that," I said. "Happy holidays is just too general."

"It's lame," Beanpole said.

"Too beige," said Twindle.

"Why, that could apply to ANY holiday and Christmas is special," I said. "Slap a generic name on it and guess what? It's still Christmas!"

With that, Officer McB pulled a harmonica from his jacket pocket and started playing *White Christmas*. And he played it real pretty, too. So pretty, in fact, that Vilma cooed like a love-sick dove.

As for ol' Maybelle, I'da brought out my ukulele and joined in, but snow was lightly falling and I thought it best to keep Pearl inside. Pearl. That's what I call her. Helen just didn't cut it.

That's when it happened. That's when Twindle dropped the bomb that would change the way we would look at Christmas forever.

"I have some news and I'm not sure you're going to like it," he said. "But, as your good friend, I think you should all know."

Why we were gob-struck. Twindle looked so serious and nervous I thought a vein would pop out of his head.

"According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year."

"So what?" Beanpole said. "Every kindergartner knows that."

"Beanpole! He wasn't finished, were you Twindle?" I said.

"NO I WASN'T!" Twindle snapped, all red-faced and feisty, needing to cool his jets.

"Go on, dear," I said. "And, Beanpole ... BUT-TON IT!"

"Alright then," Twindle huffed, staring at his nemesis. "Male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December."

"MID-December?! You mean...?" Sybil said.

"Wait up," he said. "Female reindeer keep their antlers until after they have their babies in the

Maybelle's



Fireside stories



Holiday Greetings

May the coming season bring peace, joy and harmony
for you and your loved ones.



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*Best Wishes from
Candy, Mike, Brian and Dave*



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and Safe New Year!*

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FOR ALL OCCASION

Sandwich Platters Cookie Platters Giant Sub Salads

Continued on page 17

Wishing you a Merry Christmas

Continued from page 16

spring. So, according to every historical rendition showing Santa's reindeer ... every single one of them ... Rudolph to Blitzen ...

"Are really Rhonda and Babs?" I blurted.

"YES!"

Vilma turned white. "You mean, Rudolph and the boys are ... GIRLS?"

"You got 'er," Twindle said.

Sybil shot back: "I should have known. Who else could find their way around the world on a single night, fly through snow and sleet to a gazillion different addresses, while pulling an overweight guy in a pantsuit?"

"That's wrong, Twindle. It's got to be wrong!" shouted McB. "Us males are the strong ones," he said puffing his chest out like Popeye.

"YOU strong," Vilma said, batting her eyelashes, causing

her gentle giant to melt like butter.

"Yeah, right," Beanpole quipped under his breath.

"Strong like pudding."

"So, what does this mean?" I said. "Do we re-name the reindeer? Put them in stockings and heels?"

"Bonnets and mini skirts?" said Sybil.

"Give Rhonda a nose job that lights up pink? No!" I said.

"Think about the kiddies. They LOVE Rudolph and his pals."

"Yes, dear," said Sybil. "But, think of how empowering it would be for little girls to grow up thinking of Santa's reindeer as role models."

"Role models?" Twindle said.

"It's a metaphor," Sybil said.

"Well, I say, leave well enough alone. It's all made up, anyway," I said. "And just think of all the hundreds of images of Rudy and the boys on all kinds of Christmassy things ... books, decorations, clothing, coffee mugs ... that would have to be changed."

"Well, then...why not a compromise?" said Sybil. "Make the reindeer boys AND girls."

"Yes," said, Twindle, obviously relieved. "There's got to be at least a couple of boy reindeer whose antlers don't fall off before Christmas."

"Absolutely. Plus, they'll all look the same, anyway," Sybil said, "if you don't turn them over."

And so the conversation went on ... late into the night.

By the time the bonfire settled to a warm glow, we all had had our say and many laughs. It's true we will never look at Santa's reindeer in the same way we did in years past ... but, with new eyes and open minds and hearts, we all agreed they will look even better.

And with that, ol' Maybelle wishes you and yours a very ... get ready ... Merry Christmas!

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. Read Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You, an e-book available at amazon.ca.



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Holiday

GREETINGS

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and yours
a safe and happy
holiday season.

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Wishing you a

**Very Merry Christmas and
a Safe & Happy New Year!**



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Christmas from a tree's perspective

By Steve Galea

If you celebrate Christmas properly, which is not the way I normally do it, your house is probably adorned with

Happy Holidays

From Arthur Dawson,
Eileen Stiver & Maureen Smith

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Freda and I would
like to take this
opportunity to
wish you all a

**Happy
and Safe
Holiday Season**

May your holiday season be filled with
good times and fond
memories for a long time to come.

Bill and Freda Davis

MERRY CHRISTMAS

From the Staff at



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a rainbow of luminescent lights and the smells of spruce or pine – because in all likelihood you've got a wonderful tree standing in the corner (provided you don't have cats).

There it is, all dressed up like Dennis Rodman on New Year's Eve.

This, of course, is a wonderful tradition that most of us enjoy, but I can't help but wonder what the tree thinks.

I know these days it's common for some folks to say that we should leave the trees where they stand and use artificial ones. They mutter that using them to celebrate Christmas is not a happy event for a tree.

But what if that's all wrong?

What if the highest honour bestowed upon a tree is joining the Loyal Order of the Christmas Tree? What if this is what every evergreen aspires to?

I'd like to think that every one I walk by in the woods is hoping I notice its beauty and consider it as contender for this year's Christmas tree. I'm hoping that's why they sway in the breeze

Continued on page 19

Christmas trees give us a special gift

Continued from page 18

and smell so nice.

After all, a tree's life cannot be all that exciting. As a tree, you essentially stand there in the same spot you were born in and never leave. True, you get to watch the world go by, but you are also living your life in constant fear and concern.

You worry about insects crawling under your bark and boring into you. You shiver and shake at the sound of the woodpecker. The sound of thunder in the distance is terrifying because it signifies that lightning is coming. Drought is a constant concern in summer. Floods are an issue in spring. Let's not even mention the frost checks and ice storms.

High winds make you sick. Hurricanes threaten to flatten you. Then there are the caterpillars that eat you one bite at a time and the love struck kids who end up carving a heart and their initials in your bark and then carve it out again six months later. And let's

not even think about the beavers, rabbits or porcupines. Or the fungus that loves to attach itself to your skin. Or the sound of nearby chainsaws and bulldozers that make your sap run cold.

Speaking of sap, have you ever had a spike driven into you? Or a pail hung off of you? That's gotta hurt too. But worst of all, imagine, if we humans had to put up with wood ducks and hooded mergansers flying

in and out of our cavities every spring.

The point I'm making here is there are worse things that can happen to a tree than spending the holidays with us.

Think about it. A Christmas tree gets to travel and see a bit of the world. It gets to go inside for once in its life and visit with exotic houseplants. It gets adorned with colourful lights and decked out in what must feel like the finest of clothing. It gets

to hear the laughter of children and see smiles on the faces of those around it. And, for its short but happy time with us, it is the centre of attention and the focal point of the house.

We call it beautiful and we might even sing a Christmas song or two in its honour.

Yes, that Christmas tree gives us a special gift, but I happen to think that we return the favour. Cats notwithstanding.



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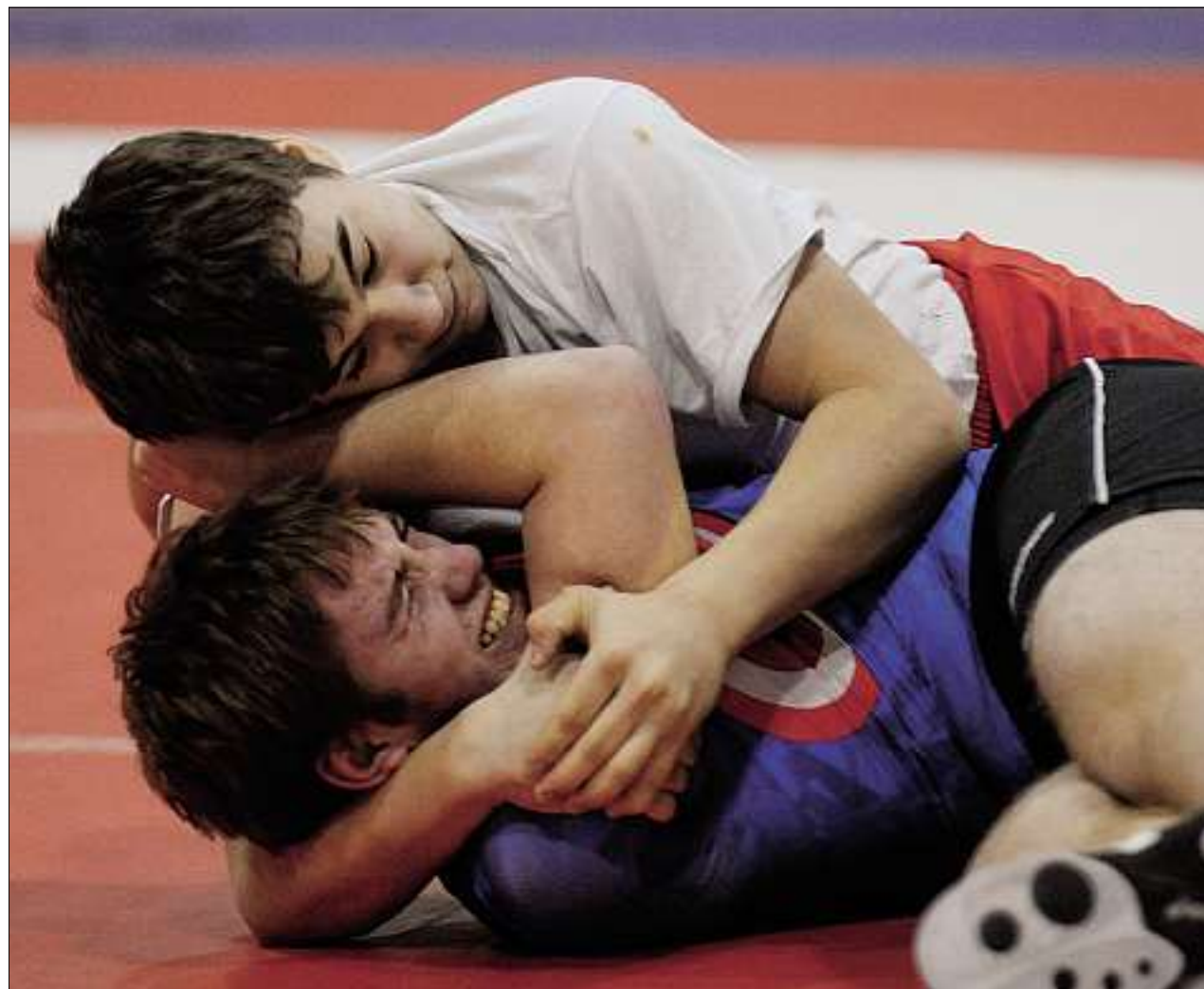
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Sports



Photos by
Darren
Lum



Hawks host wrestling event

The Haliburton Highlands Wrestling Invitational showcased talented young wrestlers from all over. Although cancelled school buses limited the number of wrestlers who competed, the event still drew close to 40 from Port Hope, Norwood and Cobourg. It was supposed to have drawn more than 100. The small field of competitors enabled the coaching staff to conduct a two-and-a-half hour clinic before the matches.



Photos clockwise from top left, Red Hawks wrestler Greg Crofts (72 kilogram), top, looks for the pin against Nick Brown of Cobourg District Collegiate Institute East; Brent Smith, left, is lifted off the ground by Red Hawks wrestler Matt Pheaton (51 kilograms); Red Hawks wrestler James McEathron (44 kilograms), right, pushes against Brody Tinney of Cobourg during the Haliburton Highlands Wrestling Invitational meet at the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School on Friday, Dec. 13. More photos on next page



Left, wrestler Darcy Foskett grapples with Red Hawks wrestler Nick Placido (57.5 kilograms); bottom, Red Hawks wrestler Nichole Honderich (51 kilograms), left, looks for an opening against Jaslyne Golez during the Haliburton Highlands Wrestling Invitational meet at the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School on Friday, Dec. 13.



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Tale of two games

➤ Hawks hockey brought back down with loss to Spartans after big win

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

Knocking off the ever-powerful St. Peter's Saints (1-2-1) is always considered a coup for any Kawartha hockey league teams (even with a slow start).

However it didn't eliminate the bad taste felt the next day when the Red Hawks hockey team lost to the Lindsay Collegiate Vocational Institute Spartans (2-1-1) at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton on Wednesday, Dec. 11.

With a 7-0 route of the Saints, the Red Hawks' confidence was sky high.

But in less than 12 hours the team was brought back to earth with a tough 6-2 loss to the Spartans, who provided an invaluable lesson for the boys in red and white.

"I said to them, 'I hope you remember this feeling.' They're not happy right now. Because [this feeling] will carry them into the playoffs. If they can remember how it feels to lose not just by a goal, but a few. They got beat today. They got beat," coach Ron Yake said. "In hockey it's definitely hard to win every game. It's hard to play your best every shift and sometimes you lose in hockey. This isn't the end of the world, but hopefully we can learn from it and build on it."

For whatever reason, Yake said, the team wasn't as focused as the day before.

Despite some solid scoring chances on a powerplay late in the second period with the game tied 2-2, the Red Hawks couldn't capitalize.

The Spartans, who exhibited quick transitions all game,



Red Hawks forward Jake Harrison shields the puck from LCVI Spartans defenders during a game at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton on Wednesday, Dec. 11. The Hawks lost their first game of the season 6-2.

Darren Lum Staff

immediately seized an opportunity when Zack Rhodes scored on what seemed like a harmless play to take the momentum and a 3-2 lead. Rhodes's goal proved to be the winner.

Yake acknowledged the team didn't play as well compared to the Saints game, pointing to this late-period goal as key to the momentum shift.

"That was a tough one. I think we had a good second period. I thought we forechecked well. We had a few chances to score. We didn't and then they scored with 11 seconds left. That gave them a little bit of a spark," he said. "They got some fast players and that got them skating. We pressured a little too much

and they deserved to win. They skated harder than we did." The Hawks (2-1-2) are in second place, two points behind the Crestwood Mustangs (4-1-0) in division one Kawartha. The third place Hurricanes of Holy Cross (2-0-1) is the only undefeated team with two games in hand to the Hawks and the Mustangs.

Red Hawks Jake Harrison and Nate Feir each had a goal in the loss.

The same can't be said for the Saints game when the Red Hawks virtually dominated, outside of a few weak goals given up by the visiting goalie Jake Fenton.

Spirits were high and the team looked like world-beaters. The forecheck was effective and the team's depth was showcased with great energy.

Yake reminded his team before this game about why they are among the best.

"I told the guys before the game that the reason we have one win and two ties is because of our energy level and our work ethic. Don't ever give that up and they definitely didn't today," he said. "They put in a great effort. We got a couple of bounces."

The coach was pleased with the powerplay, as the team is coming together.

Jordan Hamilton, who was sharp, earned the shutout.

Scoring was spread out with a pair of goals for Stewart Chaulk, Tyler Barry and Feir. As of Dec. 12, Feir has scored the most goals (six) and was second in league scoring with eight points (six goals and two assists).

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Titans ground Hawks

The Red Hawks junior boys' squad played well, even leading, but lost to the visiting St. Thomas Aquinas Titans 38-29. The visiting Titans got their first win in the game while the Hawks remain winless.

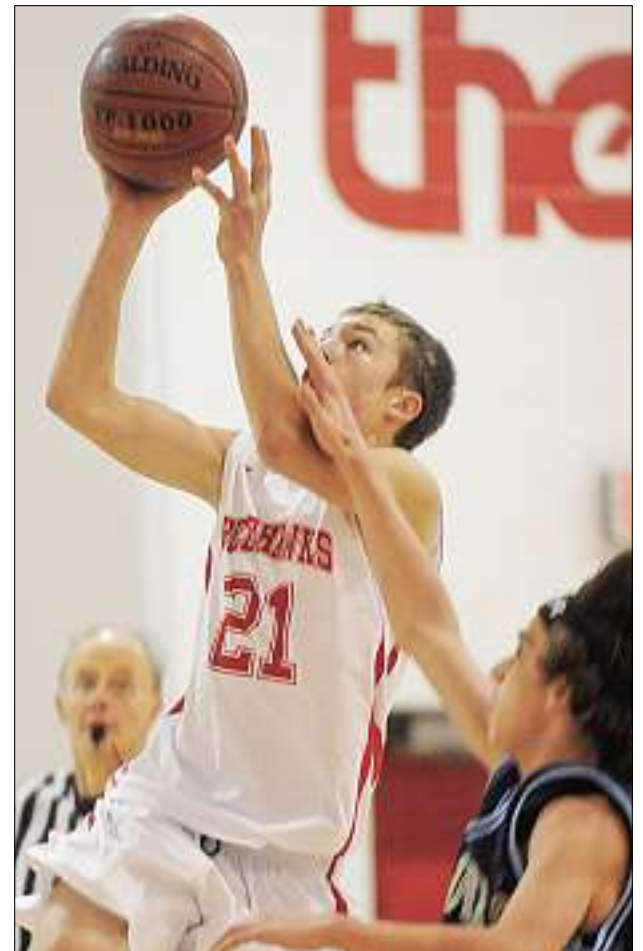
Jalen Campbell had a solid game with great effort from Grade 9 players Shane O'Reilly and Izac Reid.

- staff



Darren Lum Staff

Photos from left, Red Hawks junior forward Jalen Campbell is fouled by St. Thomas Titans forward Jack Steinksy; Red Hawks junior guard McKay Coneybeare evades a St. Thomas Titans defender Robert McCarney; Red Hawks junior player Shane O'Reilly makes an attempt for a layup in Haliburton on Tuesday, Dec. 10. Campbell and the Hawks lost 38-29.



Hawks girls' hockey in tough against Saints

The following are Haliburton Highlands Secondary School sports briefs for the week of Dec. 13.

Tuesday Announcements
The varsity girls' hockey team travelled to Peterborough to challenge St. Peter's for first place. The Saints could only generate one goal and when the buzzer sounded the score clock allowed another in the 2-0 loss.

Thursday Announcements
The junior boys' basketball team lost against Fenelon Falls Secondary School by a score of 47-20. The boys played with good heart and are learning quickly. Caleb Schmidt and McKay Coneybeare led the way with seven points each.

Submitted by Judi Paul

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Senior Red Hawks' basketball team hitting stride

➤ Coach calls Falcons game a step in the right direction

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

There's more to the game than just the score says senior Red Hawks basketball coach. Paul Longo was quick to compliment his team's most recent performance despite a 31-21 loss to the visiting Fenelon Falls Secondary School Falcons.

"For us that was a big step in the right direction. We competed hard for every ball. We believed we could win. We took good shots. Our offence was a lot better, more fluid. We played really, really good d," he said. "I'm happy with the way it was and played out. It certainly is something to build on."

The first half's ineffective scoring, he said, was characteristic of any senior high school basketball game when defence is tough.

Longo adds the shots by his team were good, but they just did not fall for points.

"Overall it was pretty good. Compared to our first couple games this was a big step," he said.

After the first quarter's six combined points, the two teams improved slightly, but still only managed 21 combined points by halftime.

A few minutes into the second quarter the Red Hawks were leading 9-3, but the Falcons erased much of the lead going into the half down 11-10.

Longo discounted the loss of the six point lead.

"Six points in basketball is not a big lead. They had a nice little run there in the third quarter. We had a little bit of a let-down at the beginning of the third, but we fought back, which was nice. We got it back to a six-point game," he said. "It's basketball. Everybody has their runs."

Down the stretch the team narrowed the deficit 24-18 with a little more than five minutes left in the game.

This was the result of a full-court press, which resulted in several Falcons turnovers. The Hawks also employed a zone offence.

The Hawks scored seven in the fourth to the Falcons' 10 points. It was far better than the third when the red and white were out scored 11-3.

It wasn't enough though; the visitors hung on to win 31-21.

The Falcons are 2-1 while the Hawks remain winless on the season.

Hawks post player Travis Carroll, who is a raw talent, demonstrated his potential with a great game.

"It's great seeing Travis knocking balls out of people's hands," he said, referring to play nearing the end.

Jennifer Robinson, who also had six rebounds, Nick Thompson and Cory Proctor each had six points to lead the Hawks in the loss.

The team contended with a short bench with several players out of the lineup because of a field trip.

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SITE LOCATION MAP



Darren Lum Staff

Red Hawks forward Jennifer Robinson, left, is double-teamed going up for a short jump shot against the Fenelon Falls Secondary School Falcons in Haliburton on Wednesday, Dec. 11. Robinson, finished with six points, but the Hawks lost 31-21.

Bantam AE Storm play hard over four games

Tom Prentice Trucking's Bantam AE Highland Storm hosted the prestigious International Silver Stick Tournament this past weekend in Haliburton. Six evenly matched teams were included this year, which provided for some excellent hockey throughout the weekend. The Storm started early Saturday morning against their long-time rival, the Ennismore Eagles. Alex Petrie got things rolling on the very first shift, scoring on a one-timer from the slot after a nice feed from Alec Stoughton at the side boards. It may have been the early morning start or it could have been some nerves, but Ennismore quickly stormed back to score four unanswered goals. Matt Manning was able to gain a goal back in the third with helpers from Jon Morrison and Carter O'Neill, but Ennismore had control by then and ended up winning 5-2. Momentum continued to work against the Storm in their second game against Prince Edward County as the Kings took an early two goal lead in a penalty-filled first period. Once they settled down though, the Storm carried the play but were not rewarded for the effort and lost 2-0.

This set up a must-win in every possible way for their final round robin game against the undefeated Lakefield Chiefs. The tournament point system meant that

our boys had to not just win the game but win every period to maximize the points needed to get into the semi-finals on Sunday and boy, did they respond.

Devyn Prentice fed Mitchell Billings who strode across the blue line and ripped one top shelf to get things going and Aiden Garbutt's shot from the point found its way through a maze of players to give the squad a two goal lead. In the second, Devyn Prentice scored a beautiful goal, using their defence as a screen and wristing one past the Chief 'tender. Goalie Ryan Hannah made some great saves to shut down the Chiefs and finally, some spade work by Trevor Turner and Sam Longo helped feed Matt Manning from the point, sealing the win and a spot in the semis against the Huntsville Otters on Sunday in Minden. It was a frustrating game to watch as an early goal squeaked through to give Huntsville the only goal they would need. The Storm played well though, and carried the play for most of the game. Credit goes to the Otter goalie who is the reason our boys were held without a goal. Although there were moments in the early going of the tournament, the Storm deserve credit for playing hard over the four games. If not, for some unlucky bounces things may have turned out entirely differently which in the end,

makes hockey such a great game to watch and play.

Special thanks go to our manager, Dana Manning, who continues to be a great ambassador for Highland Storm, making all the teams feel welcome and appreciated for participating. Thank you also to the tireless work of Andrea Prentice and all the parents who volunteered to make this a fantastic, well-organized tournament weekend.

Submitted by Jon Petrie

Storm remain undefeated

The Highland Storm Smolen's Dentistry Bantam A team played their 16th regular season game on Friday in Haliburton and they kept their undefeated season streak alive as they beat Almaguin 10-0. Parker Smolen made some big saves in the pipes to earn the shut out. Chris Thompson scored a hat trick, Paydon Miscio and Matt Wilbee with two each, while Greg Crofts, Andrew Hall and Josh Boice scored one. Assists went to Chase Burden, Owen Paterson-Smith and Greg Crofts all with two,

Nolan Flood, Mark Seville, Owen Smitty Smith, Boice, Miscio, Wilbee, and Thompson with one assist. Storm's next game is Friday night in Minden at 7 p.m. against Parry Sound.

Submitted by Tammy Smith

Peewee A battle Huntsville

Dollo's Highland Storm Peewee A team played South Muskoka in Bracebridge on Friday night and showed up short two of their usual 10 skaters. The result against the top team in points in the Muskoka-Parry Sound league was a lackluster effort ending in a 6-3 loss. The Highland Storm goals came from Owen Gilbert, Lucas Haedicke and Nick Dollo.

The Highland Storm Peewee A team travelled to Huntsville on Saturday night for a much more interesting match-up. After watching our Atom A team tie Huntsville in a high-scoring game the Peewee As took to the ice for a game that was the complete opposite. These two evenly matched teams for the second game in a row played to a 0-

see HIGHLAND page 23

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BANCROFT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 AM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

(NEW YEAR'S EVE)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

HALIBURTON 4:30 PM

(NEW YEAR'S DAY)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2013

BANCROFT 9:00 AM

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

HALIBURTON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 4TH 4:30 PM

BANCROFT: SUNDAY, JANUARY 5TH 10:00 AM

A warm welcome awaits!

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OUR CATHOLIC FAITH IS THE LARGEST CHRISTIAN FAMILY IN THE WORLD. OUR CHURCH IS A VIBRANT AND GROWING FAMILY, BUT WE MISS OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN TO MASS LATELY. GOD LOVES YOU SO MUCH THAT HE WILL NOT STOP SEARCHING FOR YOU, REACHING OUT TO YOU, SEEKING YOU. SAINT AUGUSTINE, A CONVERT TO THE FAITH AT AGE 33, ONCE SAID, "YOU HAVE MADE US FOR YOURSELF, O LORD, AND OUR HEARTS ARE RESTLESS UNTIL THEY REST IN YOU." JESUS WANTS TO INVITE YOU BACK INTO HIS BIG, WARM AND LOVING CATHOLIC FAMILY IN THE CHURCH HE FOUNDED 2,000 YEARS AGO. HE'S CALLING YOU HOME, BUT THE CHOICE IS YOURS...

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Legion br. 624

Jan Simon PRO

Wilberforce Legion

Weekly - Dec. 16 to 22

Monday - Bid Euchre

Wednesday - Fun Darts 7:30 p.m.

Friday - Pool 1:30 p.m.

Spaghetti Dinner 5 to 7 p.m.

Jam Session 7 p.m. Come to play or listen to great music.

Saturday Meat Draw 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Recent Events

The Remembrance Day Poster Contest winners were presented with their certificates on Dec. 12 at the Wilberforce Elementary School by youth and education chairman, Ed Otto accompanied by president Mary Dunne and 1st vice Linda White as well as PRO Jan Simon.

The winners are as follows:

Colour Poster Grades 4-5-6

1st place Abby Ervin

2nd place Erik Morrison

3rd place Gracyn Whitehead

Black and White Poster Grades 4-5-6

1st place Travis DeSousa

2nd place Michael Rogers

3rd place Erik Morrison

Upcoming Events

New Year's Eve Bash, Tuesday, Dec. 31 at the Legion - 9 p.m. to close.

\$20 per person - D.J. Pat Casselman Cold Buffet approx.: 11 p.m.

Everyone welcome.

President's Levy - New Year's Day - Wednesday, Jan. 1 12:30 to 5 p.m.

Come and share the beginning of a New Year. Everyone welcome.

Holiday Hours

Christmas Eve - close 5 p.m.

Christmas Day - closed - Merry Christmas everyone!

Boxing Day - closed.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF HALIBURTON CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 7:30 pm

"An Old-Fashioned Christmas" by

The Highlands Male Chorus and

The Highlands Concert Band.

General Admission - Students \$5, Adults \$10,

Family \$25. Non-perishable food items appreciated.

at St. George's

Friday, December 20

Celebration of Remembrance & Hope at Christmas

7:30 pm at St. George's

Sunday Dec. 22

Regular service times -

Lesson's & Carols at St. George's and St. Margaret's

Tuesday, December 24

at St. George's

4:30 pm - Family Service,

7:30 pm Carols, 8 pm service

Tuesday, Dec. 24

at St. Margaret's 10 pm service.

Christmas Morning Service

St. George's at 10:30 am

Regular service times - St. George's - Sunday 9:30 am

St. Margaret's - Sunday 11:15 am.

www.haliburtonecho.ca

Parade harkens to Christmases past

Wilberforce

Hilda Clark

448-2018

Santa Claus arrived here just in time for his parade on Sunday afternoon. Awaiting to accompany him through the village were a number colourful floats, groups of costumed walkers and a quartet of horses with beautifully caped riders. Mr. Holland's team of horses reminded some of old times and possible future sleigh rides. All the hearty participants deserve our applause for their efforts in welcoming Santa on a snowy wintery day.

Upon their arrival at the Lloyd Watson Centre the children and their families and friends gladly moved inside for a warm friendly time with Santa, the star of the show. Thanks to all who organized and provided such a good time for the youngsters. The presents, the treats, the activities and the music were all great fun and truly appreciated.

Both the afternoon and evening sessions at the open house at the Historic Outpost on Dec. 12 were pleasant times. Good conversation and tasty refreshments were enjoyed while surrounded by natural Christmas decorations.

There are still a number of Christmas concerts and services coming up. At St. Margaret's Church the regular 11:15 a.m. service on Sunday, Dec. 22 will be one of lessons and carols. Special music will include Bethany Houghton with cello, Mark Bramham on trumpet and Bill Gliddon on keyboard and organ as well as special vocalists.

Interested in a Christmas Eve service? There will be one at 10 p.m. on Dec. 24 also at St. Margaret's. All welcome.

One event that is not to be missed is the annual carol service at the historic Essonville Church. Always the Sunday evening before Christmas: that is Dec. 22 this year. It begins at 7 p.m. Always a full house there! Get there in time to hear the old bell ring out across the valley.

ley.

Julie called from the library to let us know there will be a program of crafts and stories on Saturday, Dec. 21 at the Wilberforce branch from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Another will be offered at the Highland Grove branch on Jan. 4 from 2 to 3 p.m. Children aged two to 12 would enjoy these programs.

All are welcome to a free community Christmas dinner being offered on Dec. 25 at the Lloyd Watson Centre between 2 and 7 p.m. There will be music and a kids' corner. Donations for the food bank are welcome but not required. For information call Lynn at 705-448-9893.

Kudos to the directors and cast of *Airline*

West Guilford

Eleanor Cooper

754-2278

Northland Faith Church held their Christmas congregational dinner on Dec. 14 at the Community Centre.

Maple Lake United Church also held a congregational dinner on Dec. 14 - a lovely turkey dinner with all the trimmings, and more desserts than one could possibly eat.

Decisions, decisions!

This column is not intended to be a diary, but input from my readers. My sister, June Campbell, visited here from Dec. 10 to 12. Mae Newcombe and Betty Berry stopped in for tea and Christmas cake on Thursday afternoon. Wayne Cooper picked up Earl and I on that evening for choir to practice our Christmas music for and with Bill Gliddon.

On Friday "my" band played at Extensicare in the afternoon. I attended and

applauded the play *Airline* and enjoyed the performance of young actors from J.D. Hodgson Elementary School, the high school and Highlands Little Theatre. Kudos to Ryan Merritt and Peggy Flowers, who directed the cast of 32! No mean feat to manage a cast of that size.

Saturday brought the men's breakfast at St. George's, which Earl attended with Perry Morrison. I attended the strings recital at St. George's later, and Bethany Houghton's pupils performed so well - violin, viola (Mar-

garet Milne), cello selections.

In the afternoon I entertained a dozen or so neighbours with Christmas cake, shortbread and hot cider or tea and coffee.

The day completed itself with that wonderful turkey dinner at Maple Lake United Church.

The Euchre scores for last Tuesday:
High: Liz Jesseman and Bill Marshall
Low: Leslie Thatcher and Ray Campbell
Most Lone Hands: Myra Marshall and Ron Bain

Storm goalie played a great game

from page 21

Submitted by Larry Bukta

Midget A has tight game against Parry Sound

The Highland Storm's Midget A team, proudly sponsored by the Highlander, had the pleasure of travelling to Parry Sound Friday night and Sunday for back to back games. On Friday night, the Storm found themselves down two players and had to make adjustments to their lines. This seemed to give the team a sense of purpose, with everyone picking up their game. At the intermission, Storm led 2-0 in a tight game. Coming out in the third, and down another man, the visitors "stormed" the home team, scoring four unanswered goals in the first four minutes to take the game 6-0. Sunday saw a near repeat performance. The Storm would score five times, making smart plays and keeping their heads in the game. The buzzer would sound to end the game giving the visiting team another shout out and a 5-0 victory.

Submitted by Wendy Sisson

0 tie that was exciting to watch. The Highland Storm were a little shaky in the first two minutes but cranked up their game with some good shots on goal and despite taking more than their share of penalties continued to play an awesome penalty kill. The second period was an even match-up with solid defence for both teams with neither side able to maintain continuous pressure in the offensive zone. In the third period Owen Gilbert slipped through the Huntsville defence for a breakaway but his shot was stopped by thgoalie. The Storm team took a penalty late in the third period giving Huntsville an opportunity but again our team played an excellent penalty kill. With a minute and half left in the game, however, there was a wild scramble in front of the Storm goal. The Highland Storm defenders frantically but successfully batted away the puck several times until they could finally clear it out of their zone. Storm goalie Carson Sisson played a great game including one stop he made on a Huntsville forward that successfully deked around our defence to put a shot on net from close in.

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community calendar

Your event for free on the web. Go to: www.mindentimes.ca or Community Calendar link at: www.haliburtonecho.ca Or email: jennifer.mceathron@sunmedia.ca

Dec 17: Children's Christmas Party at St. James Anglican Church Kinmount from 4-7 Christmas cookie decorating, pizza supper, Christmas movie, and visit from Santa. All free

Diner's Club Minden United Church : second Thursday of each month at 12:00 noon, at Minden United Church, 21 Newcastle St. (Lower Level), Minden. Info Brigitt at Community Care 705-457-2941, www.communitycarehaliburton.com.

Dec 21: Christmas at the Museum from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Located at the Haliburton Highlands Museum. Join us to make holiday decorations, enjoy treats and celebrate the Victorian way! Different activities every week! Contact: 705-457-2760 or info@haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com

Dec 22: Essonville Historic Church Carol Sing-along beginning at 7 p.m.

Dec 25: Free Community Christmas Dinner at the Lloyd Watson Community Centre, Wilberforce from 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. All Welcome. For more information please call Lynn 705-448-9893, Clara 705-448-3359 or Hazel and Digger 705-448-9692

Christmas Break Sponsored Skating

Dec 22 10:30-1:30pm sponsor Tim Hortons

Dec 23 11-12:30pm sponsor Tim Hortons

Dec 27 11-12:30pm sponsor Tim Hortons

Dec 29 10:30-11:30pm sponsor Tim Hortons

Dec 30 11-12:30pm sponsor Tim Hortons

Dec 31 11-12:30pm sponsor Tim Hortons

Jan 2 11-12:30pm sponsor Mun Rec Program



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Personal Notices

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of **Adam Fendly** please call collect Ivana Ljubic at 613-747-7800 ext. 1920.

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**Happy 90th Birthday
 Carol Duncan**
 Help us celebrate her
 Christmas Birthday
 Wed. December 25th, 2013
 at Extendicare
 2p.m. - 4p.m.
 Best Wishes Only

Obituaries

Obituaries

Robert John Nimigon
 1952-2013

In his 62 year on December 10,
 2013 passed away after being in
 Hospital in Alberta.

Son of the late Nick & Gloria,
 brothers Fred & Marlene
 (Haliburton), Dennis (British
 Columbia), David & Darlene
 (Alberta), Phil & Patty (Alberta), &
 Richard (predeceased). Many
 nieces & nephews.
 Internment to take place in the
 spring.

Will be missed by all



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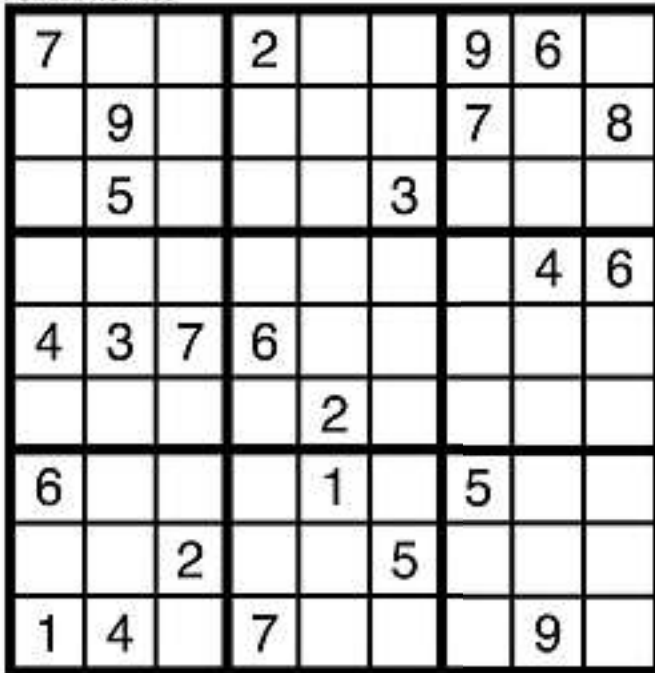
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Sudoku

PUZZLE NO. 433



ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 433

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4	1	9	5	6	8	2	7	3
2	7	5	1	6	8	9	3	4
7	8	3	6	2	4	1	9	5
6	5	2	1	8	9	7	3	4
9	4	1	7	3	5	8	2	6
1	2	4	3	7	6	9	5	8
8	3	7	9	5	1	4	6	2
5	9	6	8	4	2	3	1	7

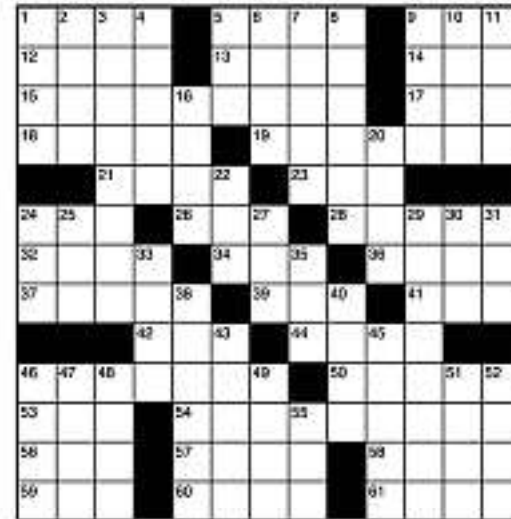
HOW TO PLAY:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column, or 3x3 box.

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 701



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ACROSS

1. Appealed
5. Seniors' dance
9. Fancy resort
12. It conquers all
13. Building overhang
14. ____-tac-toe
15. Everywhere
17. Impersonate
18. TV, newspaper, et al.
19. Vowed
21. If not
23. ____ anemone
24. Have
26. Building annex
28. Hill

DOWN

32. Deal
34. Relations
36. Ages
37. Cedar and chestnut, e.g.
39. Cookie box
41. "____ Now or Never"
42. Swiss peak
44. Skier's aid
46. Reserve for a special purpose
50. Bamboo eater
53. "We ____ the World"
54. Disputed
56. Average grade
57. ____-slapper
58. Offspring

ACROSS

59. Held
60. Machine-stitched
61. Probability

DOWN

1. Jack Horner's fruit
2. Solitary
3. Proof
4. Demon
5. Miles ____ hour
6. Grate
7. Egg shapes
8. Free-for-alls
9. Buck
10. Tube
11. Received a high grade on

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 701



CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS
USE AMERICAN SPELLING

Puzzles



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Troy Austen*



Ken Barry**
Jacquie Richards*



Geoff Bunn*



Terry Carr*



Fred Chapple*



Vince Duchene**



Rick Forget** Steve Pogue*
Iona Fevriereau*



Melanie Hevesi*



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